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1889

Colonies General

27



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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

FORTY-THREE VOLUMES.

—(8.)—

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS;
COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

Session
21 *February* 1889 — 30 *August* 1889.

VOL. LIV.

1889.

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1889.

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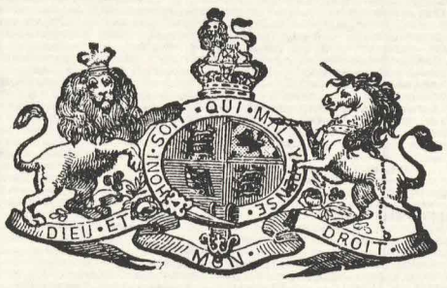
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REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 21.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1889.



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No. 55.

BAHAMAS.

Governor Sir A. SHEA to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Nassau, N.P.,
May 3, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for 1888. The returns under consideration present no salient points of difference from those of recent years. In judging of the present condition and future prospects of the Colony, however, there is one factor that should not be overlooked, although it has not yet had time to influence the statistics. I refer to the complete success of the efforts made during the past year to induce the people to engage in the cultivation of sisal hemp and to the universal feeling of hope and animation which has arisen in consequence through all classes of the community. I will not, however, do more than allude here to this subject, which I shall have occasion to enter upon in a more specific manner in the section devoted to agriculture.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue for 1888 was 45,578*l.*, exceeding the estimate by 713*l.*, and showing a decline of 291*l.* from the revenue of 1887. The expenditure was 44,404*l.* as against 43,955*l.* for the previous year, being 890*l.* in excess of the estimate, and leaving an available balance of 2,736*l.* to be carried to the credit of the present year.

Crown Lands.

3. (*a.*) The Crown land revenue for 1888 shows a still further decline on that of former years. The amount realised from all sources being only 343*l.* 14*s.*, while the expenditure amounted to 737*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* The deficit was met by the sale of four 100*l.* Bahamas Treasury Debentures at 6½ per cent. premium, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent.

(*b.*) The estimated and actual receipts on account of proceeds and arrears of sales of Crown land for 1888 were 400*l.* and 186*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* respectively. The Surveyor-General accounts for this discrepancy by the fact that notes to an amount within 60*l.* of the difference between these two sums were taken during 1888.

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and these notes are believed to be good and will be redeemed in the course of the present year.

(*c.*) The balance of the accumulated fund, 3,667*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, has been placed at the disposal of the Local Government to assist in the establishment of inter-insular steam communication in the Colony, and it is hoped this valuable service will be secured. The revenue from Crown lands will be materially increased from the expected large issue of new grants for which applications are being made in connexion with the fibre cultivation.

Salt Ponds.

4. The revenue on salt ponds account for 1888, including interest on debentures, was 61*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, and the expenditure for the same period was 65*l.* 10*s.* The amount now at the credit of this fund is 1,595*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

Widows' and Orphans' Fund

The receipts on account of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund during the year 1888 were 396*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, and the payments amounted to 2,224*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, as against 426*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* and 2,673*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* respectively for 1887. The balance at the end of 1887 to the credit of this account was 2,711*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, and at the end of 1888, 976*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*

Post Office Savings Bank.

5. The Post Office Savings Bank receipts for 1888 reach the total of 2,950*l.*, and the payments during the same period amounted to 3,008*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*, including 1,300*l.* remitted to the Crown Agents for investment, the remainder being on account of deposits withdrawn. There is a balance against this institution of 58*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* on the year's account, while that for 1887 was 102*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* This decrease in the deficit is attributable to the operation of the Act 51 Vict. cap. 25., which provides that no interest be allowed on any deposit exceeding 5*l.* for the first six months from the date of such deposit. Under the same Act the branch offices on the Out Islands have been closed, with the exception of Governor's Harbour and Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Harbour Island, and Inagua.

Public Debt.

6. (*a.*) The public debt at the end of 1888 was 83,126*l.*, of which 35,000*l.* was issued under the authority of the Crown Agents and pays four and a half per cent. interest.

(*b.*) The remainder, 48,126*l.*, was re-issued under Act 51 Vict. cap. 9. in Four Per Cent. Treasury Debentures redeemable at the end of 35 years from the date of issue. The new loan was quickly covered by the holders of the outstanding debentures, and the new

debentures are now at about six and a half per cent. premium. The conversion of this portion of the public debt effects an annual saving to the Colony of 478*l.*

Legislation.

7. (*a.*) There were 26 Acts passed by the Legislature in the general session of the year 1888. Of these the following are the most important :—

Act 51 Vict. cap. 9.—To authorise the raising of a loan to pay off existing Treasury debentures.

Act 51 Vict. cap. 13.—To encourage the development of further industries within the Colony.

Act 51 Vict. cap. 14.—To incorporate a certain Joint Stock Company formed in the island of New Providence under the style of "The Bank of Nassau."

Act 51 Vict. cap. 25.—Further to amend the Post Office Savings Bank Act, 1885.

(*b.*) The operation of the first-mentioned Act is explained in paragraph 6 (*b.*), referring to the state of the public debt; while the second Act was directed to the encouragement of sisal hemp cultivation. With regard to the Bank Act certain modifications in this measure were deemed necessary by Her Majesty's Government, and accordingly the Legislature met in special session last November and passed a Bill giving effect to the requisite amendments. The Act 51 Vict. cap. 25. was directed to place the finances of the Post Office Savings Bank in a more satisfactory position. The scope and intention of this measure are indicated in the paragraph 5 on the institution in question.

(*c.*) Two Acts were passed in the special session of the Legislature, one being the amended Incorporation Act before referred to, and the other to provide for the continuance of certain expiring Acts.

Population.

8. The population by the last census, in 1881, was 43,521, and is estimated for 1888 at about 48,000. There were 1,687 births and 1,096 deaths during the year, the rate being 38·76 and 25·18 respectively. No discrimination is made between white and coloured people in these returns, but the former may be estimated as forming about 25 per cent. of the whole population.

Education.

9. (*a.*) There are 36 Government schools with a total of 4,975 pupils on the rolls and an average daily attendance of 2,912·8. The total expenditure of the Government for education in 1888 was 3,367*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, which includes grants in aid to the extent of 146*l.* to 11 private schools in the smaller settlements, where the number of scholars registered was 925 with an average daily

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attendance of 537·8. There is a falling off in the number of private schools, of which only 38 are now open as against 48 in 1887. The number of pupils at these schools has also diminished from 1,498 to 626. This decline is principally in the Island of New Providence, where there are now 24 schools with 406 pupils compared with 32 schools and 1,057 pupils in 1887, and can be for the most part accounted for by the increased attendance at the Government and denominational schools, and also by the prevalence of whooping-cough and other complaints among the children during the past year.

(*b.*) Under Act 51 Vict. cap. 17. the annual grant for educational purposes fixed by the Education Act of 1886 at 2,900*l.* per annum was increased by 250*l.*, with a further provision that a sum equivalent to the salaries that may lapse by the death of the holders of certain ecclesiastical offices shall also be added to the grant until the total grant shall reach the sum of 3,500*l.* per annum.

(*c.*) The Church of England schools now number 31, three new ones having been opened during 1888; the attendance at these schools is set down at 1,548.

Imports.

10. The total imports for 1888 amounted to 190,405*l.*, this, however, includes 18,543*l.* cargo landed from vessels in distress, 3,073*l.* from wrecked and 515*l.* from derelict vessels. The legitimate imports for the year must therefore be given at 168,274*l.*, showing a decrease from the similarly corrected imports for 1887 of 5,176*l.*, and of these 39,787*l.* came from the United Kingdom, and 3,952*l.*, from British Colonies, together forming about 26 per cent. of the whole, while those from the United States amounted to 71 per cent., their figure being 119,459*l.* All goods from Europe and the United Kingdom come viâ New York, for the direct line of Scrutton steamers ceased calling at Nassau in the spring of 1888.

Exports.

11. (*a.*) The exports for 1888 amounted to 121,530*l.*, as against 125,464*l.* in 1887. This apparent decline of 3,934*l.* is more than accounted for by the fact that in the exports for 1887 appears an item of 4,549*l.*, unrefined sugar, and 3,394*l.*, molasses, which were merely transit goods, having been landed from distressed and wrecked vessels.

(*b.*) The true position of the export trade of the Colony will be readily seen on a comparison of the following figures:—

1887.

	£
Colonial produce - - -	101,013
Extraneous produce - - -	24,451
Total - -	125,464

1888.

	£
Colonial produce - - -	113,203
Extraneous produce - - -	8,327
Total - -	121,530

It therefore appears that in the productions of the Colony, which are the *bonâ fide* exports, there is an increase over 1887 of 12,190*l.*, while the decrease in the quantity of outside goods indicates merely a lesser amount landed and re-shipped from vessels wrecked or in distress.

(*c.*) The exports to the United Kingdom and the British Colonies were 10,793*l.*, and 1,385*l.* of colonial produce, which gives a percentage of about 10·7 compared with 96,790*l.* or 85·5 per cent. absorbed by the United States, and the balance 4,235*l.*, or about 3·8 per cent. by other foreign countries.

(*d.*) The increase in the exports appears in sponge and pine-apples, *vide* paragraphs 14 and 12.

Agriculture.

12. (*a.*) The pineapple crop for 1888 was large and commanded fair prices, 546,343 dozen pines were exported, with a value of 42,086*l.* In 1887 the figures were 375,629 dozen, valued at 32,013*l.*; the price per dozen was thus about 1*s.* 8½*d.* and 1*s.* 6*d.* for 1887 and 1888 respectively. The increase in the crop is largely to be attributed to the extended use of fertilisers of which 1,156 barrels, valued at 1,368*l.*, were imported during the year. Besides the raw fruit 21,084*l.* cases of preserved pines, valued at 4,511*l.*, were exported.

(*b.*) The orange crop was poor, the total value being only 1,972*l.*, or about one half of that of 1887. There is a slight decrease in cotton. The small amount of molasses extracted was used for home consumption.

Land put under Cultivation.—Fibre Industry.

13. The great interest that has been awakened in the fibre industry is now causing a large demand for land, although in 1888 only 607 acres were granted, showing that the people found a portion of the land already granted sufficient for their immediate needs in this respect, for a large part of the 329,198 acres already granted in this Colony is lying idle and uncleared. There is a universal faith in the great value of this industry, and without doubt it will within a very short time become the leading article of export and one of continuous development. The people throughout the Colony are everywhere engaging in this pursuit, and the prospect of great improvement it holds out has had its natural effect on their tone and spirit, which is now one of great confidence. Capitalists from abroad are becoming interested in the enterprise, and a prosperous future for the Colony seems to be

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no longer a question. The plant has singular qualities; it grows on the most arid ground, its growth is a certainty, not being affected by drought or any of the contingencies to which ordinary agriculture is subject; it ripens in the third year after planting, and from 15 to 20 annual crops are obtained from the same plant. The cost of production is relatively small, not more, probably, than one third of wheat, for ploughing and fertilising have no application, and after the planting very little is required beyond weeding, which is not a large work. The preparation of the fibre is a rapid process by Death and Elwood's machine, which is in high favour, and by which the leaf can be converted into fibre ready for shipment in two or three hours; the drying part of the preparation being rapidly effected, as the sunshine is almost always available. The certainty of the cultivation is universally accepted, and the planting now in progress will be ready for its first harvest at the end of 1891 and beginning of 1892. Meanwhile a great stimulus will be given to trade and industry by the money outlaid in the initial measures of cultivation, as well as the expenditure in various ways that naturally follows on such a revival of confidence as is now everywhere apparent throughout the Colony.

Sponge Fishery.

14. The proceeds of the sponge fishery amounted to 49,113*l.*, which is rather more than an average result. It is generally reported, however, that the sponge beds are becoming rapidly depleted, and this fact renders it impossible to regard the industry as being in a satisfactory condition.

Salt Trade.

15. There is a marked improvement in the salt industry; 225,061 bushels were exported, being nearly double the output in 1887 and rather more than twice the value, the figures being respectively 3,342*l.* and 1,497*l.* There seems but little chance, however, of the salt trade in these islands resuming its former proportions until this article can enter the United States free of duty, and unfortunately there is no present prospect of salt being placed on the free list.

Shipping Returns.

16. (*a.*) The following is the result of the shipping returns:—

Sailing Ships Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	192	15,719	1,420
In ballast - - -	41	5,120	305
Total - -	233	20,839	1,725

Sailing Ships Entered (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	69	6,913	441
In ballast - - -	57	5,321	361
Total - -	126	12,234	802

Sailing Ships Cleared (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	203	11,783	1,557
In ballast - - -	59	2,563	416
Total - -	262	14,346	1,973

Sailing Ships Cleared (Foreign).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	90	7,297	733
In ballast - - -	13	1,982	81
Total - -	103	9,279	814

Steam Ships Entered (British).

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	5	3,582	119
In ballast - - -	—	—	—
Total - -	5	3,582	119

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Steam Ships Entered (Foreign).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	40	66,191	2,173
In ballast - - -	1	2,187	56
Total - -	41	68,378	2,229

Steam Ships Cleared (British).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	4	3,502	136
In ballast - - -	1	72	12
Total - -	5	3,574	148

Steam Ships Cleared (Foreign).

——	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
With cargoes - - -	40	66,246	2,246
In ballast - -	—	—	—
Total - -	40	66,246	2,246

(*b.*) The foregoing tables show a decrease in both the total steam and sailing tonnage entered and cleared compared with 1887. The figures stand thus :—

——	1887.	1888.
	Tons.	Tons.
Sailing ships entered - -	35,855	33,073
Sailing ships cleared - -	31,604	23,625

——	1887.	1888.
	Tons.	Tons.
Steam ships entered - -	80,476	71,960
Steam ships cleared - -	79,803	69,820

This decrease occurs among British steam and foreign sailing Vessels.

Criminal Statistics.

17. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates during 1888 was 2,714; of these 1,513 were summarily convicted, 574 were discharged for want of prosecution by the party complaining or for want of evidence, and 587 were acquitted, of which number 574 were discharged in cases dismissed on their merits; 48 persons were tried in the superior courts, where judgment for the Crown was given in 33 cases.

Prison.

18. (*a.*) 380 persons were committed to prison in 1888, of whom 206 were men, 132 women, and 42 juveniles. The average daily number of prisoners was 59·18; of those committed to prison 148 had been previously convicted on three or more occasions.

(*b.*) The cost of the prison for the year, exclusive of the salaries of the chaplain and keeper, which are provided for out of the general revenue, was 1,182*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*

Hospital and Insane Asylum.

19. There were 88 patients in the hospital at the beginning of 1888, and 221 were admitted during the same year; 144 were discharged, of whom 104 were cured, 34 relieved, and 6 not improved. There were 72 deaths. No cases of infectious disease were treated with the exception of lepers, who are domiciled in a separate part of the establishment.

20. There were 11 lunatics admitted into the asylum during 1888, of whom 3 were discharged relieved, and 1, a criminal lunatic, was transferred to the Jamaica Lunatic Asylum. The average daily number of patients throughout the year was 13·8 males and 7·3 females. There were 4 deaths during the same period.

Meteorology.

21. The rainfall for 1888 was 65·52 inches; May was the wettest month with 13·63 inches, and January the dryest with 0·60 inches. The monthly averages of air-temperature ranged from 84·6° Far. in August to 71·8° Far. in December at 9 a.m., and from 86·1° Far. to 72·7° Far. at noon in the same months.

Banks.

22. The obligations due by the late Public Bank on the 31st of March 1886, when the affairs were audited, amounted to 39,928*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, of which 20,138*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* was due by the

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cashier and regarded as a bad debt. Of the balance, 19,790*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, 13,651*l.* 14*s.* has been paid, 1,931*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* written off for bad and doubtful debts, and 4,209*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* yet remains due and is payable within twelve months. This outstanding amount is so well secured that there seems no reason to doubt that it will be recovered in full. It may be considered a very satisfactory liquidation when the losses do not exceed ten per cent. of the amount that was outstanding amongst the general creditors at the failure of the bank.

23. The new Joint Stock Bank, the Bank of Nassau, will come into operation on the 1st of June next. A great convenience and general want will thus be supplied, and in view of the expected large increase of trade the bank enters on its career under most promising auspices.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. SHEA,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Baron Knutsford,
&c. &c.
Colonial Office.

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

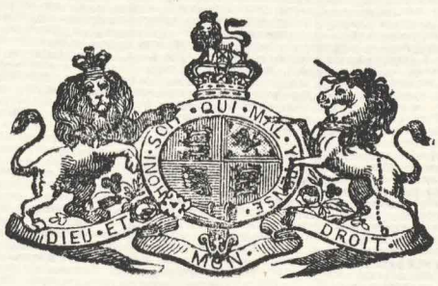
No. 62.

BARBADOS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 19.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.



LONDON:
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1889.

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39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
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43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turks Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,

No. 62.

BARBADOS.

Sir C. C. LEES to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Barbados,
June 22, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the past year, together with the report thereon furnished by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1888.

1. *Taxes and Duties.*

Remain the same as last year.

2. *Finance.*

	1888.	1887.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
The balance on the 1st January was	13,009 19 8	4,131 6 11
The revenue was - - -	162,713 3 4	163,489 9 7½
Total - -	175,723 3 0	167,620 16 6½
The expenditure was - -	149,709 15 6	154,610 16 10½
Leaving a balance of - -	26,013 7 6	13,009 19 8

3. From the above comparison it would appear that the revenue of 1887 was greater by 776*l.* 6*s.* 3½*d.* than that of 1888, but the revenue of 1887 was supplemented by 10,000*l.* from debentures issued under the Public Works Loan Act, 1881, and by 1,204*l.* 0*s.* 7½*d.* transferred from the Police Reserve Fund; which amounts, when deducted, leave the revenue from ordinary sources during 1887 at 152,285*l.* 9*s.*, or 10,427*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* less than that of 1888.

o 59390. Wt. 18437.

BARBADOS.

4. The expenditure for 1888 was 13,003*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* less than the revenue, and 4,901*l.* 1*s.* 4½*d.* less than the expenditure of 1887, although increased above the ordinary by the investment of 5,000*l.* as the nucleus of a sinking fund for the redemption of the public debt and by an extra payment of 2,178*l.* to the Imperial Post Office for postal and mail services.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the two previous years :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Rum Duty.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1888 - -	100,287	24,997	37,429	162,713
1887 - -	92,938	26,131	44,420*	163,489
1886 - -	82,856	20,255	33,175	136,286

Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888 - -	65,205	84,504	149,709
1887 - -	65,648	88,962†	154,610
1886 - -	67,640	68,988	136,628

6. The revenue and expenditure during the four quarters of the year were as follows :—

Quarter.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.
	£	£	£	£
First - - -	44,116	46,763*	32,398	41,120
Second - - -	40,468	44,719*	44,248	41,432
Third - - -	40,339	36,263	32,177	30,539
Fourth - - -	37,790	35,744	40,886	41,519
Totals - -	162,713	163,489	149,709	154,610

* Debentures 10,000*l.* † Arrears, 12,843*l.*

7. The revenue of 1888 shows an increase over that of 1887 under almost every head except "rum duty," which shows a decrease of 1,134*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* This decrease may be attributed to the working of the Rum Duty Act, 1887, which caused a good many of the distilleries to stop work for a time, owing to their not being constructed in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

Local Revenues.

8. Local revenues are raised and expended by the vestries of the 11 parishes of the Island.

9. The revenues, for parochial purposes, are chiefly raised from taxes on ownership and occupancy of lands and houses, taxes on trades, dog licenses, and pew rents, &c.

10. Separate rates are raised for the maintenance of roads, and taxes are levied on horses, mules, asses, and wheeled vehicles. There is also an annual grant of 5,450*l.* from the Legislature for this purpose.

11. The total revenue during the year 1887–88 from all sources, including legislative grant for highways, was 50,670*l.*, of which 42,896*l.* was raised by assessment, 34,876*l.* for parochial and 8,020*l.* for highway purposes.

12. The total expenditure amounted to 49,259*l.* distributed as follows:—Poor relief, 17,304*l.*; highways, 13,470*l.*; other parochial expenditure 18,485*l.*

Public Debt.

13. During 1888 the public debt was not increased and remains the same as in 1887, viz., 30,100*l.*, towards the redemption of which a sinking fund was formed, amounting to 5,000*l.*

Military Expenditure.

14. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in this Colony was 62,640*l.*, or 5,154*l.* more than in 1887.

Savings Bank.

15. The following figures taken from the Blue Book show the very prosperous condition of this institution:—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
		£	£	£
1883 - -	5,314	37,251	30,012	48,501
1884 - -	6,280	38,960	32,358	56,543
1885 - -	6,878	42,596	39,105	61,638
1886 - -	7,290	43,938	41,995	65,289
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210

BARBADOS.

16. The reserve fund at the end of the year was 3,665*l.*, or 309*l.* more than in 1887, making the total funds of the bank 100,875*l.*

17. The annual return shows the following disposition of the funds:—

	£
Mortgages on landed security - -	15,561
English funds - - - -	17,032
New South Wales stock - - -	10,508
South Australian stock - - -	7,359
Victoria stock - - - -	5,506
Cape of Good Hope stock - - -	3,217
In hands of Crown Agent for investment -	5,000
Barbados Government debentures - -	26,000
Parishes, loans to - - - -	2,526
Colonial bank at deposit receipt - -	7,000
Colonial Bank current account - -	1,027
Balance in hand - - - -	139
Total - - -	100,875

18. In November 1888 an Act was passed authorising the ex-officio managers, in every half-year, to give to the actuary a bonus not exceeding 50*l.* and to each of the clerks a bonus not exceeding 12*l.* 10*s.* out of the profits of the bank.

Public Works.

19. The amount spent during 1888 on public works was 3,027*l.*, consisting entirely of repairs and alterations to existing buildings.

Legislation.

20. During 1888 35 Acts were passed, of which the following are the more important:—

The Probation of First Offenders Act, 1888.

The Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1888.

An Act to amend "The Assistant Court of Appeal Act, 1883," and "The Petty Debt Act, 1869."

The Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act, 1883, Amendment Act, 1888.

The Merchant Shipping (Agreements) Act, 1888.

The Public Health Act, 1888.

The Lands for Public Undertakings Acquisition Act, 1888.

The Slaughtering of Animals Act, 1888.

The Governor's Entertainment Allowance Act, 1888.

An Act to define and amend the practice of the Court of Chancery.

An Act to make provision for deterring prisoners from persistently malingering.

Political Franchise.

21. The House of Assembly consists of 24 members, two for each of the 11 parishes, and two for the city of Bridgetown.

22. The constituencies who return these representatives vary in number of registered voters from 761 in Bridgetown to 49 in the parish of St. Andrew.

23. At the last general election there were 2,356 registered voters as compared with 2,469 in 1887.

24. A general election to the House of Assembly took place on the 23rd July 1888, and the session 1888–89 opened on the 24th July. The only contest took place in the city of Bridgetown.

Councils and Assemblies.

25. *Executive Council.*—No changes.

26. *Executive Committee.*—No changes.

27. *Legislative Council.*—No changes.

28. *House of Assembly.*—Mr. B. Innis was elected instead of Mr. C. T. Cottle; but he refused to serve and resigned his seat. On the 5th November Mr. J. C. Lynch was elected to the vacancy.

Civil Establishment.

29. Under this head in the Blue Book there is a nominal list of 297 officers employed in the Civil Service. Of these 47, including his Lordship the Bishop, are ecclesiastics.

30. The Governor, Sir C. C. Lees, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from 17th September to 30th October, during which period Major-General Sir C. K. Pearson, commanding the troops, administered the Government.

31. The Honourable C. C. Knollys, Colonial Secretary, was absent on leave from 2nd to 13th of May, Mr. King-Harman, Auditor General, acting; and again from 30th October to 16th of December, when Mr. F. B. Smith, Provost Marshal, acted.

32. The Treasurer, the Auditor-General, the Inspector-General of Police, and the Superintendent of Public Works were also absent on leave during the year.

Pensions.

33. The amount on the pension list during 1888 is 1,745*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* less than that of 1887; three pensions amounting to 355*l.* 16*s.* having been added, and nine amounting to 2,101*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* having lapsed.

Population.

34. The population has hardly increased to any appreciable extent since 1887, in which year it was, roughly speaking, about

BARBADOS.

180,000. The number of baptisms was 7,725 and deaths 3,814, showing an increase of births over deaths of 3,911. This increase is to a great extent counterbalanced by emigration.

Education.

35. The system of education is the same in every respect as that of 1887.

36. The schools in the Island are divided into elementary, including infant, primary, and combined schools, and higher schools sub-divided into two grades.

Elementary Schools.

37. At the close of the year there were 199 schools of this class, the Government grant in respect of which amounted to 8,133*l.* Of these 63 were primary, 27 combined, and 109 infant schools, with a gross average attendance of 13,663. The number of names on the rolls was 23,140. The elementary schools are of the following denominations:—Anglican 157, with an average attendance of 10,671; Wesleyan 22, with an average attendance of 1,528; and Moravian 20, with an average attendance of 1,464.

38. The following table gives the number of schools, the average attendance and the Government grants as compared with the years 1886 and 1887:—

Type.	1888.			1887.			1886.		
	No. of School.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.	No. of School.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.	No. of School.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
			£			£			£
Primary - - -	63	3,475	3,484	64	3,630	3,524	66	3,711	3,720
Combined - -	27	2,019	1,348	33	2,587	1,612	40	2,475	1,780
Infant - - -	109	8,169	3,301	100	6,929	2,687	93	5,443	2,263
Total - -	199	13,663	8,133	197	13,146	7,823	199	11,629	7,763

39. During the year 1,454 visits were paid by the Inspector and Assistant Inspector to the schools throughout the Island.

Higher Schools.

40. *Second Grade Schools.*—There were five of these schools at work during the year, with a gross average attendance of 184 pupils; or six more than in 1887:—The largest, the Combermere, having 88, and the smallest, the Pilgrim Place, nine pupils.

41. *First Grade Schools.*—Of these there are two, Harrison College and the Lodge School, both of which have boarding establishments attached to them. The number of pupils at the close of 1888 at the former was 146 and at the latter 39.

42. The Queen's School for Girls is conducted by a head mistress, four assistant mistresses and a music master, and closed with an attendance of 74 girls, 11 less than 1887.

43. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, had 18 students at the end of the year.

Ecclesiastical.

44. There are 11 parish churches in the Island, 32 chapels, and two chapel schools; making a total of 44 places of worship belonging to the Church of England.

45. The ecclesiastical establishment consists of the bishop, 11 rectors, and 30 curates, besides the chancellor and the registrar of the diocese. The rector of St. Michael is dean of St. Michael's Cathedral. The rector of St. Peter is the Archdeacon of Barbados. The rural deans are the rectors of St. Peter, St. Philip, and Christ Church.

46. The endowment of the Church of England from the general revenue is 11,503*l.*

47. Each rector has a house and glebe, 15 of the curates have houses, and 15 receive an allowance from the vestry for house rent.

48. Allowances are made from the general revenue to other denominations as follows:—

	£	
Roman Catholics - - -	50	per annum.
Wesleyans - - -	700	,,
Moravians - - -	400	,,

Imports and Exports.

49. The values of the imports and exports as compared with the five years previous are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1883 - - -	1,155,341	—	7,525	1,141,133	—	52,162
1884 - - -	1,156,229	888	—	1,318,878	177,745	—
1885 - - -	890,690	—	265,539	1,003,893	—	314,985
1886 - - -	863,491	—	27,199	739,911	—	263,982
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—

BARBADOS.

50. The direction of trade was as follows:—

Country.	Imports from		Exports to	
	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	428,818	360,531	182,139	190,240
United States - - -	398,002	367,118	554,237	588,481
British North America - -	79,212	92,134	158,705	162,015
West Indies and British Guiana -	66,465	60,098	143,158	60,098
Calcutta - - - -	35,627	14,595	—	—
Brazil - - - -	12	57,215	1,368	55
Other countries - - -	50,355	31,495	34,976	109,785
Total - -	1,058,491	983,187	1,074,583	1,063,397

51. The principal articles of import are butter, corn, and grain; corn-meal; fish, dried, salted, and smoked; flour, wheat and rye; guano, hardware, linens and cotton; meat, salted; rice, lumber, staves and shooks; the total value of which articles amounted in 1888 to 580,384*l.*, or more than half the total value of imports.

52. The export trade may be divided as follows:—

	£
Staple (sugar, molasses, rum) - -	885,279
Other produce - - -	11,368
Re-exports - - - -	177,936
Total -	£1,074,583

Shipping.

53. The following tables show the number and tonnage of vessels cleared and entered during 1888 as compared with 1887:—

Cleared.

Country to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.
Great Britain - -	26	22	40	19	19,015	8,397	59,689	26,266
United States - -	126	125	26	38	54,821	47,462	25,782	37,596
British North America	93	95	—	—	19,731	19,251	—	—
British West Indies and British Guiana	697	647	233	220	49,841	30,337	307,367	290,677
Foreign West Indies -	74	79	1	1	8,528	15,546	999	1,030
Other countries - -	57	36	7	7	9,401	5,388	8,445	8,077
Total - - -	1,073	1,004	307	285	161,337	146,381	402,282	363,646

Entered.

Country from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.
Great Britain - -	46	31	120	120	14,566	10,256	174,435	172,475
United States - -	105	115	44	48	31,520	35,159	44,873	49,564
British North America	113	110	—	—	17,520	17,117	—	—
British West Indies and British Guiana	610	569	137	116	33,700	35,246	179,301	137,258
Foreign West Indies -	53	50	1	—	4,031	3,638	501	—
Other countries - -	139	139	3	2	59,411	53,446	2,858	1,202
Total - - -	1,066	1,014	305	286	160,748	154,862	401,968	360,499

54. Of the vessels entered 1,164 (298 steam and 866 sailing) were British, with a tonnage of 493,977 tons; and 207 (7 steam and 200 sailing) were foreign, with a tonnage of 68,739 tons.

55. The total number of vessels entered and cleared with cargoes was 2,472, with a tonnage of 917,192 tons; the number in ballast was 379, with a tonnage of 209,143 tons.

56. The 1,380 vessels cleared outwards had crews numbering about 21,542 men.

Agriculture.

57. The number of acres of land under cultivation was 100,000. The total produce was—sugar 73,009 hogsheads and rum 329,216 gallons, being respectively 4,137 hogsheads more and 25,989 gallons less than in 1887.

BARBADOS.

Manufactures, &c.

58. There are 500 sugar works, 23 rum distilleries, one manufactory for making sulphur matches and an earthenware pottery in the Island.

59. There are also some oil wells in the parish of St. Andrew, which yielded 228 barrels of crude oil in 1888 as compared with 18 barrels in 1887, and valued at 684*l.* as against 54*l.* in 1887.

60. Fish is to be obtained in abundance at most seasons of the year, but there are no fisheries, except a whaling station at Holetown.

Criminal Statistics.

61. The total number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during the year was 3,737 as compared with 3,488 in 1887, showing an increase of 249.

62. *Apprehensions and Summonses.*—The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 10,308, or 516 more than in 1887.

63. The cases were disposed of as follows :—

Convicted - - - -	7,315
Discharged - - - -	593
Acquitted - - - -	2,284
Committed - - - -	116
Total - -	10,308

64. The summary convictions were divided as follows :—

	1888.	1887.	Increase.	Average for five years 1884–8.
Offences against the person - -	2,379	2,266	113	2486·8
Prædial larceny - - -	955	884	71	1011·8
Other offences against property -	652	556	96	673·4
Other offences - - -	3,329	3,136	193	3619·2
Total - - -	7,315	6,842	473	7791·2

65. From the above it will be seen that although the offences under each head exceed those of 1887 they are below the averages of the last five years.

66. The penalties imposed on summary conviction were as follows:—

Fines - - - -	4,717
Imprisonment in lieu of fine - -	1,173
Peremptory imprisonment - -	951
Whipping - - - -	206
Bound over, &c. - - -	268
Total - - -	7,315

67. *Superior Courts.*—The number of cases tried in the superior courts during the year was 129, or 11 more than in 1887, with the following results:—

Judgment for the Crown - -	91
„ „ prisoners - -	20
Fell through for want of prosecution -	18
	129

68. The 91 convictions were divided as follows:—

	1888.	1887.	Average for five years 1884–8.
Offences against the person - -	38	27	40·8
Prædial larceny - - - -	—	—	—
Other offences against property - -	47	31	42·
Other offences - - - -	6	10	9·6
Total - - -	91	81	92·4

69. Of these 91 convictions only 7 were of a serious nature, viz., 1 for murder, 2 for manslaughter, and 4 for robbing with violence.

Gaols and Prisoners.

70. The total number of persons committed to prison during the year was 2,700, being 76 more than in 1887; of these 1,341 were males, 1,299 females, and 60 juveniles.

71. The committals were divided as follows: 93 for debt, 384 for safe custody, and 2,223 for punishment.

72. Of the 2,700 committals, 1,138 were previously convicted as follows: 493 once, 223 twice, and 422 three times.

73. The daily average was, in prison 321, on the sick list 61.

74. There were 66 admissions to the hospital during the year, and 5 deaths.

BARBADOS.

75. The net profits of convict labour for the year was 342*l.*, of which 339*l.* was derived from the cooperage. The estimated value of male convict labour outside the prison on various public works is 201*l.*, and inside the prison from the bakery 990*l.*

76. The estimated value of female labour is 207*l.*

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

General Hospital.

77. At the beginning of 1888 207 patients were in the hospital and 2,696 were admitted during the year, making a total of 2,903 persons who made use of the institution during the year.

78. The daily average attendance was 221·73; 1,945 patients were discharged and 199 died in hospital.

79. Of those discharged 1,797 were cured, 82 relieved, and 66 "not improved."

80. The following table gives some of the principal cases treated:—

	Number of Cases.	Deaths.	Per-centage of Deaths to Cases.	Per-centage of Deaths to total Deaths.
Diarrhœa - -	96	10	10·04	5
Dysentery - -	68	4	6·25	2
Bronchitis - -	46	4	8·69	2
Phthisis - - -	96	20	20·83	10
Burns - - -	22	6	27·27	3
Typhoid fever - -	140	18	12·85	9
Cardiac, organic -	41	13	31·70	6·50

Lazaretto.

81. At the end of 1888 there were 84 inmates resident in this institution; 13 were admitted during the year, 13 died, 12 males and 1 female, and 1 was discharged. The daily average was 82·84.

Lunatic Asylum.

82. The daily average number of patients in the lunatic asylum during 1888 was 210—106 males and 104 females; 81 admissions (16 more than in 1887) are recorded; 40 patients were discharged and 30 died in the asylum.

83. Of the 40 patients discharged, 37 were cured and 3 relieved.

84. The accommodation at the lunatic asylum has for many years been inadequate to the wants of the Island, and although the question of providing more suitable buildings has again and again been under consideration, nothing was actually done until March 1888, when a resolution was passed by the House of Assembly granting the sum of 2,500*l.* for the purchase of "Jenkinsville" as a site for a new lunatic asylum, the plans for which are now in course of preparation.

Meteorological.

85. The temperature during the year varied little from that of 1887. It ranged generally between 74° and 80°.

86. The rainfall was greater than in 1887 by about 7 inches, being 80 inches distributed over 180 days.

Health.

87. The health of the Island was good throughout the year.

(Signed) C. C. KNOLLYS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados, 21st June 1889.

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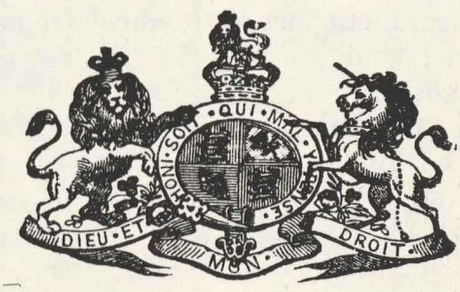
No. 44.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

REPORT OF THE ACTING ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPT. 1888.

(The Report for 1887 is printed in [C.—5363] April 1888.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1889.



LONDON:
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No. 44.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

[The Report for 1887 is printed in [C.—5363.] April 1888.]

Government House, Cape Town,
December 3rd, 1888.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a Despatch which I have received from the Acting Administrator of British Bechuanaland reporting on the condition of the territory, and the progress made during the past year.

Mr. Newton's report on the position and prospect of the Colony at the close of the third year of its existence is able and interesting. He has only been in the country for about four months, but he has grasped the main features of the position with a completeness which speaks well for his industry and sound judgment. As he says, the country is neither an Arcadia nor a desert. The objects for which it was annexed, namely, the protection of the natives and the retention of the trade route to the interior, have been accomplished. For the rest, the Colony must be content to advance slowly, and to dispense with many very desirable improvements until it is itself in a position to pay for them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERCULES ROBINSON,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Administrator's Office, British Bechuanaland,
Vryburg, November 22, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for your Excellency's information, the following special reports on the progress and position of British Bechuanaland for the year ending the 30th September 1888:—

1. The Officer Commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police.
2. The Acting Receiver-General.
3. The Crown Prosecutor.
4. The Surveyor-General.
5. The Acting Postmaster.
6. The Superintendent of Telegraphs.
7. The Acting Registrar of Deeds.*
8. The Acting Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court.*
9. The Inspector of Native Reserves.
10. The Government Storekeeper.
11. The Acting Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Vryburg.

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* Not printed.

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BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

12. The District Surgeon of Vryburg.
13. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking.
14. The District Surgeon of Mafeking.
15. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Taungs.
16. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Taungs.*

It will be observed that there are this year sixteen special reports as against twelve last year; the additional contributions are from the Crown Prosecutor, the Government Storekeeper, the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Kuruman, and the District Surgeon of Vryburg.

The reports are not arranged according to any rule of seniority or precedence, but I have thought it more convenient to place those of the officers of the central administration first, and then the local reports of the Civil Commissioners, Resident Magistrates and District Surgeons.

In the absence of Sir Sidney Shippard, I find myself charged with the duty of forwarding these reports to your Excellency under cover of the usual annual reports for the past year, from October to October, a duty which, after a brief residence of three months only in the Colony, is attended with some difficulty. With the details of events in the first nine months of the year I am, naturally, not familiar; but in dealing with results at the end of the year I am in a position to speak with more authority, and to congratulate your Excellency on the completion of a third year of the successful government of this territory.

Sir Sidney Shippard will no doubt, on his return from the British Protectorate and Matebeleland, report fully on the events of the past year in those countries, and he will no doubt also deal with the nature of our external relations with our neighbours in the South African Republic.

On the few matters on which I have exchanged correspondence with the Border Commissioner for that Government, Mr. Van Niekerk's communications have been courteous and conciliatory in their tone; and he has always appeared anxious to maintain the good understanding which exists among the dwellers on the border line. It is true that there have been frontier difficulties at Rooi Grond, near Mafeking, and also on the border of the Taungs division between a Mr. Bosman, a farmer in the Transvaal, and some unfortunate natives who have been permitted to live on our frontier near Pokwani; but, were there no difficulties, there would be no need for a Commissioner, and there is every reason to believe that these matters are capable of satisfactory adjustment.

There are, however, certain points on which, sooner or later, it will be necessary to arrive at a definite understanding with the Government of the South African Republic. It is particularly

* Not printed.

desirable that a treaty, dealing with the following points, should be drafted and submitted for the early consideration of that Government, whose attention has already been invited on more than one occasion to each of them:—

1. Extradition.
2. The compulsory attendance of witnesses.
3. Reciprocity in regard to—
   (*a*) tracing stolen stock across the border;
   (*b*) the recognition of passes to natives.
4. Postal and telegraphic relations.

The report of the Officer commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police, which forms the first enclosure to this Despatch, records a notable change. The news of the resignation of Colonel Sir Frederick Carrington was received with regret, as well by the inhabitants of the territory, of whose property he had been the safeguard, as by the members of the force which he organised and commanded. His own reputation as a soldier and leader of irregular forces was made before he came here; but he has succeeded in establishing a name for his corps as an effective instrument for the repression of crime and the maintenance of law and order. The thorough efficiency of the force has by this time furnished an argument for its reduction; and there can be no gainsaying the fact that, save for divisional work, for the prevention of stock thefts and the recovery of stolen stock, its occupation is gone in this territory.

The freebooting element is dead in this part of South Africa; some freebooters have farms, others have gold claims, and others have designs on different parts of South Africa, but none have the slightest intention of resuming a "game" which anyone conversant with the course of affairs here must know was "played out" and finally decided by the firm and just awards of the Land Commission.

A certain number of police is required to be retained in this country for purely divisional purposes, such as the repression of stock-thieving in the districts of Mafeking and Kuruman, and the arrest of all sorts of criminals. They would also continue to be of use in reporting on the disposition, health, and prospects of the natives. In this respect they have always been found a most valuable aid to the civil administration. I would also suggest that some few of them might be usefully employed (1) as an escort and an intelligence department for the use of the Inspector of Native Reserves in the collection of hut-tax in outlying and newly-formed native villages, and (2) to protect the extensive forest lands, the property of the Crown, which are at present being wastefully destroyed by Europeans and natives alike.

The report of the Officer Commanding the Police contains statistics of crime detected and property recovered, which are sufficiently eloquent, and make it unnecessary for me to bear further witness as to the efficiency and value of the force.

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The figures furnished by the Acting Receiver-General are evidence of the care and vigilance which have been employed in dealing with the finances of the territory. The comparative statements contributed by him of corresponding periods in 1887 and 1888, setting forth as they do the steady increase of the revenue and the substantial decrease of the expenditure, afford more convincing proof of a genuine advance and a gradual development of our resources than do flattering visions of gold mines and hopeful anticipations of a railway. The items of expenditure and revenue, and some of the other subjects on which Mr. Hawtayne touches, can be more conveniently dealt with at different points of my report. I cannot, however, endorse his plea in support of a Government grant-in-aid of the Church of England in British Bechuanaland.

The legislation for the year under notice has been valuable, as may be gathered from the following epitome :—Proclamations have been issued during that period providing that the use of postage stamps need not be confined to the purposes of postage ; making better provision for prospecting for precious minerals—gold, silver and platinum ; authorising the expropriation of land for defensive purposes ; making provision with respect to manufacturing, keeping, selling, carrying, and importing explosive substances ; providing for the appointment of additional polling places for voters at divisional council elections ; introducing an amendment to the law relating to the dog-tax, so that offenders can be made to pay the costs of their own prosecution ; amending the law relating to the publication of certain notices by the master of the Chief Magistrate's court ; amending the law relating to the disposal of derelict lands ; putting in force the provisions of the "Police Offences Act, 1882," of the Cape of Good Hope in the village of Kuruman ; putting in force the provisions of the "Cattle Removal Act, 1870," of the Cape of Good Hope in the district of Kuruman ; increasing the allowances to witnesses in criminal cases who are resident in certain neighbouring states or Colonies ; restricting the impounding of animals found straying at certain times on certain lands, and disallowing trespass money in certain cases ; explaining the position of licensing courts in places where divisional councils are established ; defining the limits of the jurisdiction of the Resident Magistrate of Mafeking ; fixing a tariff of allowances to witnesses from the Cape Colony ; providing for the payment of all quitrent to the Civil Commissioner of Vryburg, or to the Civil Commissioner of the division in which the property is situate ; legalising certain marriages solemnised in 1887 ; providing that forfeiture of license may be adjudged in addition to the specified penalty, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction for the offence of selling, exchanging, or for any valuable consideration giving to or procuring for any native any wine or spirituous liquor ; providing for the appointment of a special justice of the peace at Setlagoli ; and amending section 60 of the Bechuanaland regulations so as to make the mere giving [liquor] to, or procuring liquor for, a native an offence.

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It is satisfactory to note in the report from the Crown Prosecutor that there has been a marked decrease in crime during the past year. The partial suppression of stock thefts has been effected by the vigilance of the police and by the infliction of well-merited punishment where convictions have been obtained. In the districts of Mafeking and Kuruman the number of these cases will no doubt be diminished, as in those of Vryburg and Taungs, by the prompt action of the police and the strict severity of the magistrate.

On the other hand, in the towns of Vryburg and Taungs, the persistent sale of liquor to natives was continued for some months, and the endeavours to obtain convictions by means of the system known as "trapping" were for a time frustrated by every kind of device. It was also contended that that system was a disgrace, and false sentiment was evoked by a theory that the Bechuanaland police were too honourable a body of men to employ such a mean artifice. The "trapping" of a suspected person of selling liquor to the natives is merely a method of collecting evidence without subjecting the suspected person to any exceptional temptation or holding out any large profit as an inducement, to prove that the practice of breaking the law is on the part of the suspected person habitual. The amount of money employed for the purchase by the trap is usually only 2*s*., the price of a bottle of "Cape smoke;" and when a trader readily succumbs to the inducement of the small sum which represents the profit on that transaction, it is clear that he must be in the habit of breaking the law in this respect. Since the quite recent conviction of a notorious firm of illicit sellers at Taungs, and the infliction of the full penalty of 50*l*., the ordinary practices of the illicit trade have received a severe check; and the alteration of the laws of the territory, so as to make the loss of license a penalty on a second conviction, and a subsequent alteration abolishing the necessity of proving the passing of valuable consideration in the transaction, have still further reduced the evil. Unless, however, prosecutions are from time to time instituted it will be impossible to preserve the native races from the dangers and diseases which must result from the deleterious quality of the liquor supplied to them by unscrupulous traders. The evil at Vryburg is not nearly so serious as it is at Taungs, and the Chief Mankoroane deserves something more than reproof for not lending help in the suppression of a trade and a vice which, if unchecked, is likely to cause the ruin of the Batlapin people. It is worth consideration whether the payment of his annual allowance should be continued so long as he extends his countenance to flagrant breaches of the law on this head.

Most of the reports contributed by the heads of the civil departments are so complete as to make it unnecessary for me to offer many remarks on the subjects with which they deal.

The work done by the Departments of the Post Office and the telegraphs is thoroughly satisfactory, and Mr. Baxter merits praise for the creditable manner in which the postal arrangements are made and carried out. A new post cart contract has now been

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made with the same contractor, on the subject of which I have already written to your Excellency at length. It seems very likely that in a few months the post-cart service may have to be extended to some point north of Mafeking. The work, both in this department and in that of the telegraphs, has attained such large dimensions, and is increasing so rapidly, that it will be necessary to submit to your Excellency a proposal for erecting them into one separate department under an "expert" as its head, who would be able to give his undivided attention to its efficient operation and timely development. By this suggestion I have no wish to make any reflection either on the Acting Postmaster-General or the Superintendent of Telegraphs; quite the reverse. Both those gentlemen for the past year have been performing the duties of these offices in addition to others of an onerous description; and your Excellency will agree with me that it is highly creditable that in the circumstances the work has been so well done.

The telegraph department has incurred criticism from home on the score of expense, from which it really deserves to have escaped. It has had many difficulties to contend with. The Cape Colony gets far more than its fair share of receipts, as, though it is our wire which runs over Cape territory between Bank's Drift and Barkly, yet we get no share of the profits from messages sent from Kimberley or Barkly; the wire in use is entirely unsuitable for this country; and in the summer, as the Superintendent points out, when thunderstorms are constant, the line becomes expensive to maintain, the staff of clerks, operators and linesmen is too small; and is liable to constant change in view of the high salaries obtainable in the Transvaal. In spite of these difficulties I am glad to be able to report that there is a prospect of the Department being really profitable, as the receipts have within the last few months substantially risen. What with railway enterprise, northward developments, and gold speculations, the telegraph system must soon more than pay its way; and it is to be hoped that a new wire and an extension of the system northward and westward may be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government.

The anticipation of the administration last year that the collection of hut-tax would prove satisfactory is on the whole justified by the brief but interesting report of the Inspector of Native Reserves. It is true that the total amount collected falls short of the estimate by 436*l.* 10*s.*, but Mr. St. Quintin shows an increase of 103*l.* on the amount collected by him in the previous year; while the difficulties which he has experienced, as set forth in his report, would have justified a short fall. I submit that there is no reason why these difficulties should continue or recur; and I am convinced that with some display of force, in the shape of an escort of active and intelligent men picked from the police, and with additional clerical and generally subordinate assistance, Mr. St. Quintin would be able to collect three times the sum of 1,282*l.* from the outlying native towns. The experience quoted by him of Morokwen affords proof of this. It will be remembered that Captain Lucy with a detachment of the Bechuanaland Border

Police was sent to enforce a demand for hut-tax, and that a bloodless victory with very profitable results was achieved by that officer.

The report of the Government storekeeper records the formation of a new department, which, under the zealous direction of Captain Goodyear, should be of the greatest value to the Government. Regulations to assist other departments in co-operating with that officer have been compiled and circulated, and it is to be hoped that they will be strictly observed. These regulations have been drawn up on the precedent of the rules furnished from the Colonial Office as being in force in the Crown Colony of Lagos.

It has also been considered desirable to organise a system of guarantees to be furnished by all civil servants who are entrusted with the care of public moneys. I have pleasure in reporting to your Excellency that the civil servants concerned have willingly and loyally assisted in the scheme, and that the necessary arrangements will be completed in every case by the end of the current year.

The local reports from the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates of Vryburg, Mafeking, Taungs, and Kuruman are unanimous as to the excellent harvest of Indian corn (or "mealies") and Kaffir corn which the natives have this year reaped. It is much to be regretted that very little benefit is received by the natives on this account. As a rule they sell their corn in an improvident manner at the time when it is cheapest, and in a few months have to re-purchase it from the trader at a higher rate. The suggestion of the Government Storekeeper that hut-tax might be paid in grain is worthy of consideration, and I believe the practice is in vogue in Basutoland.

The report from the district of Mafeking is this year generally satisfactory, and I do not observe that certain melancholy prognostications of 1887 are sought to be justified by their author in 1888.

The new gaol at Vryburg has been taken over by the Government, and is amply large enough to serve both as a central prison and as a local gaol. The contract for its erection was not satisfactorily performed, either as regards the quality of the work or the date of completion; but certain necessary alterations and additions have been made at the expense of the contractors, on whom I felt bound to impose a fine of 300*l.* in accordance with the carefully drawn provisions of the contract. The building is now in good repair and commodiously furnished, and I have issued instructions to the magistrates of Mafeking, Taungs, and Kuruman to arrange for sending in their long-sentence prisoners.

I desire to draw attention here to a matter which has formed the subject of remarks in the reports of the Surveyor-General and the Civil Commissioners of Vryburg and Kuruman. The forests of Bechuanaland, though the fact may not generally be known, are of considerable extent; they are rapidly being destroyed by reason of the demand for timber and firewood at Kimberley.

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The natives have been informed that they may cut wood on their reserves; and both natives and Europeans are at present busily engaged in denuding some of the finest forest lands on Crown reserves of their timber. These lands form one of the most valuable of our assets, and the expenditure yearly of a few hundreds would secure their immunity from depredations, at any rate until money can be voted to admit of the organization of an expert, and consequently profitable, forest department.

The question of education in this territory is none the less important because it does not appear to agitate the public mind. The Government extends at present no aid to the education of children, while the children of the natives receive attention and instruction from the funds at the disposal of various missionary societies.

At Mafeking and Vryburg there are numbers of white children who, if not without all opportunities of education, are at any rate a serious burden to their parents on account of its costliness; and I am venturing to propose the grant of a small sum for educational purposes at each of these centres.

The reports of the district surgeons call for no special comment, but I hear that disease has been and is rife amongst the natives in the towns of Morokwen, Genesa, Taungs, and Monte. The district surgeon of Vryburg has been sent round to these places, but, owing to the superstitious ideas of the natives regarding white men touching their sick, he could do but little. The matter, however, is still receiving attention.

The need for medical relief and hospitals demands something more substantial than a paragraph in a report, and a sentence in a despatch. At present in no less than four native towns some fatal disease is at work; in one town the death rate was reported at ten per diem in a population roughly estimated at five or six thousand, in another smaller town of about one thousand inhabitants the disease carried off over thirty in the month of August; were it not for the exceptional healthiness of the climate, the dryness of the atmosphere, and the sweeping forces of the rains and winds, the inhabitants of the native towns would be annually decimated, owing to their total disregard of the most ordinary rules of sanitation. Anyone who had passed through, or has unfortunately been compelled to stay at, a native town shortly after a light rain, must remember the horrible and dangerous odours which arise around it. The practice of medicine, as soon as its advantages and comforts were known, would speedily secure, first the recognition, and then the gratitude of the natives, and in time would exercise a more valuable influence than that at the disposal of missionaries or traders. The institution of surgeons in each district, with a sum of money to be voted for the appliance of medical comforts at discretion, might prove a useful preliminary to the institution of a more complete scheme of medical relief by the construction and maintenance of village hospitals.

It is with the greatest regret that I have to record the death of Mr. C. G. H. Mann, who so ably filled the post of secretary

to the Administrator. Mr. Mann was well known, and as well liked; and, something more than that, he was both an admirable official and an excellent companion, and in all his official and private relations was always a bright example to young civil servants both here and in the Cape Colony. I regret the absence of the Administrator on this account, that he could have borne eloquent witness of his merits and of our loss.

The Colony has also lost, by death in August last, the services of Mr. P. J. Truter, who, in performing the multifarious duties allotted to the post of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Vryburg, proved himself a capable and industrious public servant.

Sir Charles Metcalfe and Mr. Blue, the surveyors engaged by the syndicate and firm respectively, who purpose the construction of a railway from Kimberley to Mafeking, recently made a formal entry into Vryburg, accompanied by Mr. R. W. Murray, the representative of the promotors of the scheme. They were met by a deputation of the inhabitants of the town, and were entertained at banquets both here and at Mafeking. Enthusiastic speeches have been made, and the advent of the railway has been announced as an assured fact; nevertheless, in view of the somewhat extravagant terms proposed by the promoters, and in consequence of certain doubts as to the policy of the new Parliament in the Cape of Good Hope, the feasibility of the scheme does not seem absolutely proved; and, until a meeting of the new Cape Parliament has been held, the matter would appear to be almost in abeyance.

It is at present impossible to say that payable gold has been found anywhere in this territory. There are numerous indications of gold, and gold has been found; and, in order to be prepared for the auspicious event, the draft of a complete gold mining law has been published in the Government Gazette, to court the criticism of the public. Valuable discoveries of gold have also been made to the north and to the east, and it seems reasonable to infer that a payable gold-field must be discovered in this territory in the course of the forthcoming year.

The operations of capitalists, syndicates, and companies in the territories to the north of British Bechuanaland cannot fail to have a beneficial effect on the commerce of the traders and the pockets of the farmers in the territory. The former, at present, have benefited largely by the rebate which is granted by the Cape Government on goods imported hither through the Cape Colony, and they have all secured handsome profits on the purchase of grain from the natives in this memorably fruitful year.

As regards the farming industry, it has barely a claim to be called by such a term, unless one considers that the practice of transport riding, on the principle of *lucus a non lucendo*, can be termed a farming industry. The Dutch farmers in this Colony, and many of the English, are always ready to relinquish the legitimate pursuits of husbandry and stock-raising for the adventitious profits of transport riding. It is on this account that many of

them fear, and some few oppose, the advent of a railway; and it is on this account that the railway will confer a lasting benefit on the country, if only it compels the owners of the land to make a living out of it. At present, in spite of a "good year," the general condition of the farmers does not appear to have materially improved; but there is little doubt that, with the creation of new demands, and the opening of fresh markets, a golden future is in store for the class which is nowadays only by cant or courtesy spoken of as "the backbone of the country."

I must express my regret to your Excellency that the tone of this report has not been entirely laudatory. Had it been possible, to have entered into a more minute retrospect of the past year no doubt many more encouraging features would have been discovered. There can be no doubt of the natural powers of this country for the raising of crops and stock; as a country of minerals and metals it is still as a sealed book. The progress that has been made is slow, though for that it may be the more sure; no decisive answer has as yet been given to the question of the resemblance of Bechuanaland to the Sahara, or to Arcadia, or to the "land of Ophir," for it has been compared by detractors and admirers to each of these. Those who know it best subscribe the most willingly to the optimistic creed of the officer whom I have the honour to represent as to the splendid future in store for the whole of the land from the Vaal River to the Zambesi.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. J. NEWTON,
Acting Administrator.

His Excellency the Governor,
Cape Town.

Enclosure 1.

ANNUAL REPORT, OFFICER COMMANDING THE BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE, 1887–1888.

Strength at Date of last Report.

At the time of my last annual report for the year ending 14th August 1887 the Bechuanaland Border Police Force consisted of fifteen (15) officers and two hundred and forty-seven (247) non-commissioned officers and men.

Officers.

The number of officers has since been reduced to twelve (12) through the desertion of Lieutenant W. McCallum in October 1887; the appointment of Captain C. Goodyear as Government Storekeeper, British Bechuanaland, from 1st April 1888, and resignations of Colonel Sir F. Carrington, K.C.M.G., and Captain F. H. Lucy.

The following promotions have taken place in the Force during the year, viz., Sub-Lieut. C. S. West promoted Lieutenant *vice* McCallum, Lance-Corporal J. W. Fuller promoted Sub-Lieutenant *vice* West.

Lieutenant and Adjutant A. Bates promoted Captain and Adjutant, and to perform the duties of Quarter-Master *vice* Goodyear.

Lieutenant C. F. M. McGregor promoted Captain *vice* Lucy. Captain H. Goold-Adams promoted Major (local rank) and appointed Acting Commandant *vice* Carrington.

The efficiency of the Force has been in no way impaired by the reduced number of officers, as at the date of my last report it was composed of three (3) troops, since which time I have reduced the number of troops to two (2), thus enabling me to dispense with the services of the additional officers.

Reduction of Strength, 1st October 1887.

Under the authority of his Excellency the High Commissioner a reduction in the strength of the non-commissioned officers and men to one hundred and thirty-five (135) was made on 1st October 1887; this reduction was effected (1) through time-expired men claiming their discharge; (2) the granting of discharges to men at their own request; (3) discharging men of bad or indifferent character, and it of course necessitated the reversion of certain non-commissioned officers to lower grades, the strength of non-commissioned officers on that date being thirty-two (32), and at present date twenty (20).

Increase of Strength, Native Troopers.

Under authority of his Excellency the High Commissioner an increase of the force by fifty (50) native police was sanctioned in August 1887; of this number thirty-seven (37) were engaged in Basutoland in October last, through the co-operation of Colonel Sir Marshall Clarke, and the remainder have been enrolled at various times in Bechuanaland, the present strength being forty-nine (49).

Present Strength.

The strength of the force on the 14th August 1888 was twelve (12) officers, twenty (20) non-commissioned officers, one hundred and eighteen (118) troopers, and forty-nine (49) native police, total, one hundred and ninety-nine (199).

Throughout the year no difficulty has been experienced in replacing casualties, there invariably being more applicants to join than vacancies to admit them.

Casualties.

The following statement will fully show the working of the corps during the year, viz. :—

Officers.

Resigned - - - - -	3
Deserted - - - - -	1
Promoted - - - - -	3

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.

Promoted Sub-Lieutenant - - -	1
Promoted - - - - -	10
Reduced - - - - -	1
Reverted - - - - -	4
Discharged on reduction, or own request -	143
Discharged by order (misconduct) - -	18
Discharged, medically unfit - - -	Nil
Deserted - - - -	„
Dead - - - - -	„

Joined the Force.

Europeans - - - - -	50
Natives - - - - -	50

The chief reason for the many changes in the force is that men are constantly wishing to obtain discharge to take up lucrative appointments offered them at the gold-fields and other places. Up to May of the present year these discharges were granted free, but since that date a certain penalty in proportion to unexpired service (sanctioned by his Excellency the High Commissioner) has been enforced, which prevents any loss to Government in regard to clothing, equipment, &c., and also deters men applying for discharge on trivial grounds.

Native Drivers.

The native wagon drivers have been reduced from twenty-two (22) to eleven (11), the transport of the force being proportionally decreased. This reduction was also effected on the 1st October 1887.

Hospital Assistants.

The extra duty pay to hospital assistants, which amounted to four shillings (4*s.* 0*d.*) per diem, formerly pay of interpreter, has been discontinued.

Special Employment.

A lance-corporal was employed as clerk in the telegraph office, Mafeking, up to 30th September 1887. Trooper H. S. Schwabe was employed as clerk to his Honour the Administrator from 15th August 1887 to 31st March 1888.

Acting Sergeant A. J. Wight with four (4) troopers was employed as escort to the Rev. J. S. Moffat, Assistant Commissioner in the Protectorate and Matebeleland from the 4th September 1887 to the 7th April 1888.

Lance-corporal A. Steward and Trooper O. Ogilvie were employed as escort to the Bishop of Bloemfontein in the Protectorate from 13th April to 23rd May 1888. Five (5) troopers, under charge of Trooper Ogilvie, have again been employed as escort to the Rev. J. S. Moffat in the Protectorate and Matebeleland since the 28th June last, and are still so employed.

These are the only cases during the year in which men have been employed on duties other than the actual working of the force.

Postal Service (up-country).

During the whole year all despatches and official correspondence both to and from the Protectorate have been carried by police riders, the duty, I consider, being performed very satisfactorily.

On the 1st of August last a post by native runners (one post per week each way) was established with the sanction of his Honour the Administrator. These runners have been supplemented by weekly despatch riders from the police, and so far the mails have been delivered with fair regularity.

Arrests and Convictions.

During the year two hundred and seventeen (217) arrests have been made by the police and one hundred and twenty-two (122) convictions obtained. This record compares very favourably with the previous year, the difficulty of obtaining reliable evidence accounting in most cases for the non-conviction of accused.

Stock Reports.

The numbers of stock lost or stolen which have been reported to the police during the past year were 65 horses, 279 oxen, 7 mules, 45 sheep, &c., of these 47 horses, 245 oxen, 5 mules,

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

42 sheep, &c. have been recovered by the police. The estimated value of stock lost being about 2,000*l.*, that recovered about 15,000*l.*, a great diminution as compared with 1886–87; thus, I consider, showing increased security both for farmers and natives.

Out-Stations, Bechuanaland.

Two new out-stations for the police have been established during the year, one at Kuruman, where there is a Resident Magistrate, and the other in the Langeberg district (Toto's location). Both these detachments have done excellent service and have been on several occasions highly commended by the magistrate, the latter district (Toto's) being about the most lawless in Bechuanaland.

The out-stations of Maneering and Mosito have been discontinued, the former as being unsuitable and the latter owing to it being necessary to increase the strength of other and more important stations.

The number of men employed at the various stations remains about the same as last year, except in the case of Setlagoli, which, owing to the reduced number of the force had to be considerably decreased.

The number of out-stations remains the same as last year, viz., fourteen (14), and are as follows:—Pitsani (4 men), Lower Maritzani (4), Eye of Maritzani (2), Setlagoli (12), Morokwen (5), Genesa (4), Takoon (4), Grootchoing (2), Mosimanyane (2), Schaapfontein (5), Tweelings Pan (4), Dry Hartz (2), Kuruman (6), and Langeberg (12). Some of these have latterly been slightly decreased owing to the large number of police now on duty in the Protectorate.

All out-stations have been constantly visited and inspected by one or other of the officers of the force; patrol reports and diaries, giving full particulars of work done at each station, are furnished by the non-commissioned officers in charge. These reports are, when practicable, rendered weekly through the officers commanding troops, for the information of the commanding officer. Grain and forage returns are also kept at each station showing receipts and expenditure: these returns are furnished monthly to the quartermaster. The general work performed at the various out-stations throughout the year has been satisfactory.

Detachments in the Protectorate.

Detachments at the head places of the Chiefs Khama (Mangwato) Sechele (Molopolole) and Gasseitsive (Kanya) have been maintained throughout the year, but these, owing to the reduction of the force, have been of necessarily smaller numbers than last year. Two troopers were retained at each of the above stations until the date of his Honour the Administrator's present visit to the

Protectorate, when the numbers were altered to one trooper and two native troopers at each station.

One new station has been formed at Klakhama (about midway between Mafeking and Kanya) to facilitate the present postal arrangements, and has been found of much advantage.

These small detachments are required to maintain communication with the various Chiefs and are also useful for various police duties, the recovery of stock, &c.

I have reason to be satisfied with the work done and discretion shown by the men employed at the various stations, and there can be no doubt that keeping touch with the Chiefs, and receiving early and reliable information of anything taking place in their countries tends greatly to maintain peace among them and prevent the many petty disputes that occurred before the British Protectorate was proclaimed.

Horse Strength and Casualties.

The strength of horses in possession of the force on the 14th August 1887 was two hundred and seventy-six (276); since that date forty-one (41) horses have been purchased partly out of moneys realised by the sale of cast animals and partly through a grant of 600*l.* sanctioned by his Excellency the High Commissioner, dated 22nd May 1888, and one horse stolen in November 1886 has been recovered, making a total of three hundred and eighteen (318).

During the year sixty-three (63) horses have died from horse-sickness and twenty-two (22) from other causes; thirty one (31) horses were cast and sold by public auction, and six (6) horses were cast and shot (either through accidents or contagious disease); no horses have been lost or stolen, making a total decrease of one hundred and twenty-two (122), and leaving the present strength of horses one hundred and ninety-six (196).

Horse-Sickness.

Horse-sickness, of which sixty-three (63) horses died out of a total casualty list of one hundred and twenty-two (122), is chiefly confined to the months of March, April, and May, during, and immediately after, the rainy season, but has not been nearly so prevalent during the past year as hitherto. Of the sixty-three (63) horses above mentioned twenty (20) died in the Protectorate, the other deaths occurring chiefly at out-stations in the south and western districts of Bechuanaland, Mafeking being almost entirely free from the sickness, several cases of death at this station being those of horses lately doing duty in the Protectorate, where the disease is undoubtedly more prevalent.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

It is almost impossible to form an estimate of the deaths of horses belonging to civilians and natives, but their loss has doubtless been proportionately more severe, owing to fewer precautions being taken.

Sale of Cast Horses, Mules, and Oxen.

The amount realised by the sale of cast animals during the past year has been 124*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, made up as follows, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By sale of horses - -	116	9	6			
Less commission, &c. -	3	16	3			
				112	13	3
By sale of mules - -	8	14	0			
Less commission, &c. -	0	7	0			
				8	7	0
By sale of oxen - -	4	3	0			
Less commission, &c. -	0	4	6			
				3	18	6
Net total realised - - -				124	18	9

Transport Animals and Casualties.

The casualties among the transport animals in charge of the force have been comparatively small during the past year. The mule strength on the 14th August 1887 was one hundred and sixty (160); no further mules have been purchased, the decrease being nineteen (19) dead and four (4) cast and sold as above mentioned, leaving the present strength one hundred and thirty-seven (137). The deaths of the mules are chiefly attributable to natural causes, as they have all been in constant and hard work for the past three years and a half.

The bullock strength on the 14th August 1887 was thirty-two (32), the casualties since being two (2) dead (Protectorate), one cast and shot (worn out), and three (3) cast and sold as above mentioned; fifteen (15) oxen have been purchased, of these fourteen (14) were purchased at Molopolole at the beginning of August last under the authority of his Honour the Administrator for service during his Honour's present visit to the Protectorate, leaving the present strength forty-one (41) oxen.

Regimental Works.

At Mafeking during the past year several alterations in the hut accommodation of the men have been carried out. the huts, originally built in 1885 at the men's own cost, were, through

stress of weather, rapidly falling into decay and becoming uninhabitable. Sanction for expenditure of 220*l.* in repair of the huts was applied for and approved of by his Honour the Administrator in March 1888. The best huts were then selected, the reed roofing taken off, the walls strengthened, and iron roofing put on, which will enable these huts to be used with comfort for a considerable time. The huts not required for the use of the men were afterwards turned into stables, being also partially iron-roofed, thus enabling me to do away with the open-air stable kraals, and also resulting in a considerable benefit to the health and condition of the horses. The estimate was not exceeded, the money being spent entirely in material and the labour performed by the police.

A regimental canteen has also been erected, free of cost to the public, which is both a saving to the men and source of revenue to the corps.

At Vryburg the iron store was removed to a more suitable site at the cost of 10*l.* and is now used as a stable, the remaining police accommodation being kept in a serviceable condition. At Taungs no material alterations have taken place, but police accommodation kept in good repair. The forts at Mafeking, Setlagoli, Vryburg, and Taungs have been kept in thorough repair during the year and some internal additions made to them.

The mule and ox kraal erected in 1886 is still in use and in good repair.

Artillery.

The seven-pounder (muzzle-loader) battery has during the year been distributed as follows:—Two (2) guns, with necessary ammunition, &c., each at Mafeking, Vryburg, and Taungs. The battery is in every way in thorough working order and has been exercised throughout the year; gun detachments have at various times been instructed in field gun drill, those men who appeared qualified being granted certificates of proficiency by the commanding officer.

Police Farms.

At the date of my last report thirty-five (35) farms had been issued to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the force under the scheme and conditions recommended by the Land Commission of 1886. During the past year six (6) more farms in the Ramathlabama division, bordering on the Protectorate, have been granted. One farm, No. 12, was handed back to the Chief Montsioa, the grantee, Paymaster Macpherson, receiving compensation for the same. One farm, No. 3, confiscated on the 15th June 1887, was granted to F. Penn on the 20th October 1887 and is now in his possession. Two farms, Nos. 9 and 30, held by Sub-Lieutenant Lochner and Captain Lucy respectively, have been confiscated to the Crown, owing to the non-fulfilment of the conditions of tenure. With the exception of the above cases

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

the conditions of the Land Commission appear to have been fairly carried out, grantees or their substitutes living on the farms and improvements being made. The farms have been at various times inspected by officers of the force to ensure the conditions being properly fulfilled. Colonel Sir F. Carrington made a full inquiry into the working of the farms in February last, and a report on the same was submitted to his Honour the Administrator on the 16th February. The arms and ammunition issued to the farmers were returned to the Government Storekeeper in May last, and have not since been re-issued. The farms are all situated on the Transvaal or Protectorate border; they average about 1,500 morgen and have been surveyed. The number of farmers who, with their horses, are at present available for military service is thirty-eight (38).

Distances travelled on Patrol and other Duties.

The number of miles travelled by the police on patrol and other mounted duties was somewhat less than during the previous year, chiefly owing to the almost entire tranquillity of the country and the smaller number of lost and stolen stock reported.

I attach patrol report showing approximately the distances travelled during the year by officers and men in the different districts.

Colonel Sir F. Carrington, lately commanding the force, visited and inspected the stations of Vryburg and Taungs, and nearly all the out-stations, several times during the year, and other officers of the force have been constantly detailed to carry out this duty.

Discipline.

The discipline of the force (Europeans) has been generally good; throughout the year there have been four (4) cases of civil conviction against men of the force and in each case the prisoners have been summarily discharged. There are no men of force undergoing imprisonment at the present date.

Basutos.

After a year's experience I consider the scheme of native police to have been an entire failure and to have caused expense rather than economy. The men are utterly wanting in discipline, and have been almost useless except for fatigue work; they cannot be trusted at out-stations, nor can they be made use of for long distance despatch riding, as, being nearly all of them bad riders, they give the horses sore backs. I can confidently state that they have knocked up more horses than all the remainder of the force. Many have turned out of very bad character and three have been summarily dismissed on conviction by civil power.

These fifty (50) natives could be replaced by twenty-seven (27) white men at the same cost, which would materially increase the

efficiency of the force, and also be a great saving to the Government in horse flesh, equipment, and clothing. I therefore strongly recommend their discharge from the force at the earliest possible date.

Special Patrols.

At the date of the last annual report particulars of Colonel Sir F. Carrington's patrol through the Protectorate were not furnished: he left Mafeking, accompanied by Captain Lucy and an escort of one sergeant and five troopers, on the 15th July and returned on the 19th of September 1887, having visited all the stations in the Protectorate and been well received by the different Chiefs. On the 15th October 1887 Sub-Lieutenant F. W. Lochner with one non-commissioned officer and trooper proceeded to Maseru, Basutoland, for the purpose of enrolling native police and returned to this station on the 4th December 1887, having enrolled forty-two (42) natives.

On the 19th October 1887, Lieutenant Macgregor accompanied the Resident Magistrate, Taungs, on a patrol to the border *re* some native cattle impounded by the Transvaal authorities and satisfactorily settled the dispute, a report of the same being forwarded to the Secretary on 27th October.

On the 9th December 1887 Sub-Lieutenant Lochner proceeded to Moghosi's station *re* complaints made by the Chief Ikaning. A report of the same being forwarded to the Acting Administrator on the 16th December.

On the 2nd February 1888 Captain Goold-Adams proceeded to Shoshong, under instructions received from his Honour the Deputy Commissioner dated Vryburg, 18th January. Captain Goold-Adams returned on 11th March, having also visited the Chiefs Sechele and Lenchwe. A report was furnished to his Honour on the 15th March, a second report being forwarded on the 30th March and Captain Goold-Adams received the approval of the Secretary for the Colonies for the tact and discretion with which he had conducted his mission.

On the 14th May 1888, owing to the natives in the Morokwen district refusing to pay hut-tax, Captain Lucy and Sub-Lieutenant Lochner, two non-commissioned officers and eighteen men were, by order of his Honour the Administrator, despatched to that district to enforce the law; the detachment returned to this station on the 14th June, having compelled the natives to pay their taxes; no breach of the peace occurred. A report by Captain Lucy, together with road report and sketch maps, were forwarded to the Secretary on the 6th June, and Captain Lucy's prompt and decided action in the matter received his Honour's approval.

On the 16th July 1888, Sub-Lieutenant F. W. Lochner was sent from Mafeking to take charge of the Kuruman and Langberg detachments, and these stations were increased in strength owing to the numerous cases of cattle thieving reported.

On the 25th July 1888, owing to reported disturbances between Khama's people and the Boers on the Crocodile River, Lieutenant

BRITISH BECHUANA LAND.

F. W. Lochner, three non-commissioned officers and eighteen men were, by direction of his Excellency the High Commissioner, sent up country to see that the neutrality of the British Protectorate was observed; this detachment was ordered not to proceed further than Molopolole. On the 2nd August his Honour the Administrator, accompanied by Captain Goold-Adams, Sub-Lieutenant Fuller, and escort of two non-commissioned officers, and twenty-two men, left Mafeking for the Protectorate for the purpose of endeavouring to settle the disputed territory between Khama and Lo Bengula, and also to make full inquiry into the fight on the Crocodile River.

There are at present three officers and fifty-seven men, with fifty-three horses, thirty-three oxen, and three waggons, on duty in the Protectorate, the largest number that has been stationed there since the formation of the force.

Lieutenant C S. West (once), Sub-Lieutenant White (once), and Sub-Lieutenant Fuller (twice) have also been employed on special patrols in Bechuanaland, and have carried out the several duties assigned to them satisfactorily.

Arms and Equipment.

The arms and ammunition of the force are complete and in a good and serviceable condition; the equipment is also complete and serviceable, with the exception of certain saddlery; the whole of the saddlery of the force was purchased in 1885 to last for three years and nearly all of it requires renewing.

Medical Officer's Report.

From the report of the medical officer in charge (attached) it appears that during the past year one hundred and thirty (130) men of the force have been reported sick; of this number only twenty-six (26) were admitted to hospital, and of these admissions no case terminated fatally and only two were of a serious nature, viz., one of erysipelas of the arm and one of a compound dislocation of the ankle joint. The usual epidemics of fever and diarrhœa occurred during the summer season, but were not of a serious nature. The general health of the force has been very good.

Forage.

The sum of 8,039*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* was paid during the year for the purchase of forage; of this sum 2,190*l.* 10*s.* was paid by the Receiver and Accountant-General under the regulations which came in force on the 1st April 1888.

The contract price of forage for the year has been for mealies (10*s.* 6*d.*) ten shillings and sixpence per 100 lbs. and for oat-hay (17*s.*) seventeen shillings per 100 lbs., as against (10*s.*) ten shillings per 100 lbs. for mealies and (13*s.*) thirteen shillings per 100 lbs. for oat-hay to 31st March 1887, an unfavourable season and increased demand having caused the contract prices to be raised.

Cost of Force.

The actual amount of pay, allowances, and deferred pay paid or due on the 14th August 1888, including 127*l.* 15*s.* gratuity paid to Trooper A. Day, late A Troop, was 29,441*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* as against 34,914*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* for the year 1886–7.

The total cost of the force for the past year has been as follows, viz. :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Pay and allowances (including deferred pay 7,690*l.* 13*s.*) - -	29,441	8	5
Cost of forage - - -	8,039	2	6
Other charges were - -	630	17	11
Total - - -	38,111	8	10
Deduct amount recovered by fines &c. - - -	72	9	0
Actual cost of force for the year	38,038	19	10

(Signed) GEORGE PUZEY, Capt.,
For Commandant Bechuanaland Border Police on duty in the Protectorate.

Mafeking, Bechuanaland,
17th November 1888.

BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE.

Total Number of Miles patrolled, and other Mounted Duties performed by the Bechuanaland Border Police Force from 15th August 1887 to 14th August 1888.

Place.	No. of Miles patrolled.	Days occupied.	No. of Miles on other Mounted Duties.	Days occupied.	No. of Miles travelled by Officers.	Days occupied.	Remarks.
Protectorate - -	2,450	135	9,520	224	2,370	134	
Mafeking and district	29,260	1,472	34,722	1,712	7,335	351	
Vryburg and district -	8,970	298	22,669	897	4,243	174	
Taungs and district -	22,141	1,065	8,331	279	2,291	76	
Kuruman and Langberg - - -	7,170	173	4,961	186	90	3	
Tota - -	69,991	3,145	77,203	3,298	16,329	738	

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Dr. Green's Report.

SIR, Mafeking, August 14, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the previous twelve months, 130 men of the Bechuanaland Border Police reported sick; of this number 26 were admitted to hospital. Of the admissions to hospital no cases terminated fatally, and only two were of a serious nature, viz., one of erysipelas of the arm, and one of compound dislocation of the ankle joint.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. PIERCE GREEN,
Medical Officer
Bechuanaland Border Police.

The Officer commanding the
Bechuanaland Border Police.

Enclosure 2.

ANNUAL REPORT, ACTING RECEIVER-GENERAL.

Receiver-General's Office, Vryburg,
November 1, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for your Honour's information, my annual report for the year ended 30th September last, together with statements showing the receipts and expenditure of the territory for the first six months, that is, from 1st April to 30th September, of the current financial year, as compared with the receipts and expenditure for the first six months of the financial year 1887–88.

The statements referred to are based on the assumption that the estimates for the current financial year (which have not yet been received here) will eventually be approved as submitted to the Secretary of State.

The comparison of the receipts for the two periods shows a net increase in the receipts of the first six months of this financial year of 3,274*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* over those for the corresponding period of the year 1887–1888. The greater portion of this sum is composed of receipts for sale of Crown lands. The hut-tax receipts also show a substantial increase, and it is probable that the amount estimated to be received during the year under this head will be exceeded.

In licenses there appears a decrease, due principally to the closing of some of the stores and hotels in the town of Vryburg.

The post office receipts show an increase of 461*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* which may be looked upon as a satisfactory proof of the increased prosperity of the territory.

In telegraphs there is a slight falling off which must be attributed to the extension of telegraph lines in the South African Republic, the telegraph receipts of this territory having diminished

gradually since the opening of an office at Malmani, a gold mining centre some 20 miles distant from Mafeking, at which town formerly a large revenue was derived by the Telegraph Department, mainly from messages sent by and addressed to the inhabitants of the neighbouring gold centre.

The survey reimbursements show a substantial increase, consequent on the increased sale of Crown lands.

The receipts in aid are considerably less than those of last year, but taking into consideration the reduced strength of the Bechuanaland Border Police, this is, perhaps, only natural.

Of the Parliamentary grant-in-aid 18,550*l.* only have been drawn, as against 39,125*l.* drawn during the same period of the year 1887–1888, showing a difference of 20,575*l.* less drawn from the British tax-payer than was drawn during the first six months of the last financial year.

Generally speaking the statement of receipts cannot be taken as otherwise than satisfactory, and the total revenue estimated to be received during the year will in all probability be exceeded.

I now come to the expenditure, and your Honour will observe that the total amount expended during the first six months of the current financial year is less by 10,943*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* than that of the similar period of the previous year; the principal decrease appears in the vote for the Bechuanaland Border Police and amounts to 14,927*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* This is owing to the extensive reductions which have been made in the strength of the police. Most of the remaining votes show increases of different magnitudes.

The total expenditure for the six months of this year was 28,816*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, but of this sum more than half is absorbed by the Bechuanaland Border Police.

The expenditure generally has been cut to the lowest possible limits compatible with the satisfactory government of the Colony; but it seems to me there are one or two small items of expenditure which the Government might reasonably be expected to incur.

Some small support to the Established Church could hardly be classed as unnecessary expenditure, and I think it is worthy of note that Vryburg, the capital of a British Colony, is without a church and without a clergyman of the Church of England.

Throughout the whole territory there does not exist, with the exception of missionaries to natives (whose spiritual welfare is always cared for, to the detriment of that of the white inhabitants) a single clergyman of the Established Church.

This state of affairs should not be allowed to continue; the inhabitants themselves are not sufficiently wealthy to support, unaided, a church and a clergyman, but with a small amount of assistance from the Government they would be able to do so. Were the Government to allow a sum of 500*l.* to be expended annually on this service, each of the principal towns would be able, with a share of the assistance thus given, to support its own church.

The absence of a sufficient number of medical men is also very much felt. There being only two doctors in the territory, these are sometimes taken away from their headquarters for as long as

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

a fortnight at a time. Medical men should be appointed to Taungs and Kuruman, both of which towns have now to be attended to, should necessity occur, by the district surgeon of Vryburg. These appointments would involve an expenditure of 600*l.* annually.

Since the rendering of the last annual reports the financial aspect of the country may be said to have improved; a considerable portion of land has been disposed of, and although one scheme for the settlement of a large portion of the country has, on account of mismanagement, not proved successful, a number of farms have been taken up, and many more would doubtless have been taken, had not the proposed railway scheme rendered for the time being any further sale of land in the best farming districts inadvisable.

Should the proposed railway extension from Kimberley to Mafeking be carried through, its advantages to this country would of course be innumerable; the valuable farming land on either side of the line would speedily become thickly populated, and the revenue would increase; but it seems to me that the principal advantages of this scheme are to accrue to the railway company, and not to the Government, which alienates from itself for ever the choicest farming land in the Colony, and if the scheme be carried through on the conditions proposed, the Government gives over to the company part of its (the Government's) legitimate revenue, and even goes so far as to grant them a share in any present or future mineral rights in the vast Protectorate.

The trade up country is daily increasing and large numbers of wagons are continually passing northward.

The well-equipped expedition of the Great Northern Exploration Company has lately passed through on its way to the rich and extensive gold fields of the north, which will now be opened up, probably causing a rush of gold-seekers and the establishment of towns.

Operations for the discovery of gold and other minerals in this territory are still being carried on, and satisfactory indications of the presence of gold have lately been discovered.

The Protectorate is at the present time a source of considerable expense to the Government, and it yields no corresponding revenue, but I trust that the Government will soon see its way clear to the imposition of at any rate a hut-tax in that territory.

The next year will probably see great strides in the advancement of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. F. HAWTAYNE,

Acting Receiver and Accountant General.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

Comparative Statement of Receipts for first Half-Years 1887–88 and 1888–89.

Head of Receipt.	Estimate for Year 1888-89.	Actual first Half-Year 1887-88.	Actual first Half-Year 1888-89.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Land revenue sales	—	71 13 4	2,832 6 8	2,760 13 4	—
„ quitrent	1,350 0 0	736 18 0	763 0 9	26 2 9	—
Hut-tax	3,500 0 0	838 0 0	1,461 0 0	623 0 0	—
Licenses	1,300 0 0	570 7 6	397 4 0	—	173 3 6
Revenue stamps	1,330 0 0	491 6 2	369 1 2	—	122 5 0
Post Office	930 5 0	349 8 8	810 13 11	461 5 3	—
Commission on money orders	—	43 1 6	57 11 0	14 9 6	—
Telegraphs	1,300 0 0	549 5 9	466 6 0	—	82 19 9
Fines and fees	250 0 0	100 13 5	164 5 6	63 12 1	—
Transfer duty	1,250 0 0	588 6 6	620 13 11	32 7 5	
Auction duty	50 0 0	46 2 6	56 12 4	10 9 10	—
Sale of unclaimed stock and Government property	50 0 0	13 14 3	25 15 9	12 1 6	—
Miscellaneous	60 0 0	168 19 11	84 9 8	—	84 10 3
Survey reimbursements	750 0 0	20 16 0	250 10 3	229 14 3	—
	—	4,588 13 6	8,359 10 11	4,233 15 11	462 18 6
Receipts in Aid.					
Police stores	—	519 5 1	97 6 1	—	421 19 0
Fines and non-effective accounts	—	71 16 2	46 0 9	—	25 15 5
Horse and mule account	—	108 3 0	76 16 4	—	31 6 8
Overpayments recovered	—	25 14 1	8 6 0	—	17 8 1
	—	724 18 4	228 9 2	—	496 9 2
	—	5,313 11 10	8,588 0 1	4,233 15 11	959 7 1
Parliamentary grant	50,000 0 0	39,125 0 0*	18,550 0 0	—	20,575 0 0

* Exclusive of balance in hand on 1st April 1888, 5,965*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

(Signed) J. F. HAWTAYNE, Acting Receiver-General.

British Bechuanaland.

Comparative Return of Payments for first Half-Years 1887–88 and 1888–89.

Item of Expenditure.	Estimate for Year 1888-89.	Actual first Half-Year 1887-88.	Actual first Half-Year 1888-89.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Establishments	13,024 0 0	4,935 19 10	5,873 8 10	937 9 0	—
Pensions	600 0 0	300 0 0	275 0 0	—	25 0 0
Bechuanaland Border Police	31,796 5 0	29,849 0 9	14,921 8 5	—	14,927 12 4
Post Office	1,614 0 0	736 13 10	759 2 10	22 9 0	—
Telegraphs	2,395 0 0	1,074 4 3	932 18 0	—	141 6 3
Gaols and constables	800 0 0	315 1 0	690 3 9	375 2 9	—
Administration of justice	250 0 0	64 14 0	140 13 11	75 19 11	—
Public works	2,641 0 0	597 0 3	*1,340 5 2	*743 4 11	—
Per-centage on hut-tax	—	88 1 7	—	—	88 1 7
Office contingencies	500 0 0	91 3 9	372 17 5	281 13 8	—
Transport	500 0 0	166 4 7	336 12 7	170 8 0	—
Advertising and printing	350 0 0	62 11 4	122 0 4	59 9 0	—
Medical expenses	200 0 0	23 5 0	55 1 6	31 16 6	—
Revenue services	200 0 0	—	0 4 7	0 4 7	—
Miscellaneous	250 0 0	20 17 2	249 1 10	228 4 8	—
Survey expenses	6,000 0 0	1,060 11 2	†2,066 4 0	†1,005 12 10	—
Protectorate	800 0 0	365 13 7	432 13 4	66 19 9	—
Refunds	200 0 0	9 4 4	248 16 2	239 11 10	—
	—	39,760 6 5	28,816 12 8	4,238 6 5	15,182 0 2

* 458*l.* 6*s.* paid last year, shown as advance outstanding on 31st March, 1888.
† 216*l.* 4*s.* of this sum not actually paid out, being deducted as repayment of advance to Surveyor Metrill, shown outstanding on 31st March 1888.

(Signed) J. F. Hawtayne, Acting Receiver-General.

Enclosure No. 3.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CROWN PROSECUTOR.

Crown Prosecutor's Office, Vryburg,
November 19, 1888.

SIR,

IN compliance with your request I have the honour to forward the following report on crime and criminal legislation during the past year.

I am happy to inform you that crime has decreased in a marked degree in this territory generally, and especially in the districts of Vryburg and Taungs, where the majority of cases have been of a petty nature, such as contraventions of the Masters and Servants and Police Offences Acts. Stock thefts, which are usually prevalent where large native communities are to be found, have been conspicuous by their rarity in these two districts. A successful prosecution several months ago was instrumental in breaking up a large gang of "cattle lifters," who were a source of great annoyance and trouble to the farmers and natives in the Vryburg district.

The criminal calendar for the district of Mafeking shows that the majority of serious cases (not many) have been stock thefts, which have almost invariably been committed by such natives as Bakalahari or Vaalpenses. After an experience of two and a half years as public prosecutor, I find the Baralongs, Batlapins, and Batlaros, to be well-behaved and law-abiding tribes, crime of a serious nature being of rare occcurrence amongst them.

Previous to the establishment of a magistracy at Kuruman the Langberg with its kloofs and fastnesses afforded a receptacle for cattle and horses stolen from the Cape Colony and elsewhere, but since the arrival of Mr. Streatfeild and the police in this district a different and more satisfactory state of affairs exists. The few cases of cattle thefts amply testify to the vigilance and corrective influence of the police.

Strenuous efforts have for some time been made to suppress the illicit sale of liquor to natives, which is largely carried on at Taungs and to some extent at Vryburg.

I find that the local police (natives) are perfectly unfitted for dealing with this traffic, nor do they seem to evince the slightest inclination to put the law into force. It is impossible to obtain any information from these police or from any natives.

A successful prosecution at Taungs two months ago, in which the full penalty (50*l.*) was imposed and the proclamation of an enactment forfeiting the license on a second conviction within three years have done much to prevent a direct sale by the victualler to natives. It was, however, discovered that subsequent to this enactment the law was and is still evaded by the employment of an agent who is not included in the definition of the word "native." This agent is undoubtedly in the employ of the victualler, but owing to the difficulty of legally establishing this agency a proclamation was issued amending section 60 of laws

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and regulations under Proc. 2 B.B. 1885 so as to make the mere giving or procuring an offence. In my opinion the eradication of this evil can best be effected by the permanent employment of a highly efficient detective who should be provided with trustworthy and experienced traps. As a further possible check on this traffic I would respectfully suggest that his Honour take into consideration the advisability of the introduction of a law forbidding the importation of liquor without a special permit, giving the police full power of search and containing a forfeiture clause in the event of liquor being found unprotected by such permit. Such an enactment appears to me to be necessary, for I am informed that natives at Taungs and Kuruman are in the habit of importing large quantities of liquor into their respective reserves and further that whites consign liquor to natives who secretly dispose of it.

The appointment of a special justice of the peace for Setlagoli and the adjoining wards has been authorized by a recent proclamation, but no official has as yet received such appointment. This officer will I feel sure be a boon to farmers, who are at present, in cases under the Masters and Servants Act, &c., obliged to go to Mafeking or Vryburg a distance of some fifty miles.

The want of extradition treaties with the Transvaal and Orange Free State is much felt. Owing to the proximity of the border of the former state it is no difficult matter for an offender to speedily evade the police.

We have at present no means of procuring the attendance of witnesses resident in the Transvaal or Orange Free State, before our courts; I would therefore suggest that negotiations be entered into with these states with a view to reciprocal legislation being passed to attain this object. In one or two cases justice has been defeated owing to the absence of the means to compel the attendance of such witnesses. I beg further to suggest that all prisoners undergoing long sentences be confined in the new gaol at Vryburg which is sufficiently commodious to serve as a central prison. This would enable the magistrates at Taungs and Mafeking to reserve a cell for female prisoners. Hitherto this has been impossible, owing to the want of space.

In conclusion, I venture to impute the decrease in crime to the establishment of police out-stations in the various districts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. VINTCENT,
Acting Crown Prosecutor.

To the Secretary, Vryburg.

Enclosure 4.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Area of Territory.

The total area of British Bechuanaland is estimated to be about 45,000 square miles. This estimate may be considerably modified when the course of the Molopo river, which forms the northern and western boundaries of this territory, has been defined.

Land granted to Europeans.

The area of land granted to Europeans and held in severalty is approximately 5,800 square miles.

Native Reserves.

The area of land set apart for the natives, and held by them on tribal tenure, is approximately 2,800 square miles. This does not include a tract of land estimated to be about 600 square miles in extent, which will be reserved for the use of the Batlaros to the westward of Kuruman.

District of Gordonia.

This district is situated on the Orange river, and is estimated to cover an area of 3,000 square miles.

Vacant Crown Land.

The lands available for occupation are thus roughly 30,000 square miles in extent.

Land Sales.

The area of Crown land sold during the past 12 months is 299 square miles.

Methuen Settlement.

Several gentlemen have taken advantage of the terms offered by the promoters of this scheme, and have expressed themselves satisfied with the natural resources of the country.

Trigonometrical Survey.

The piles built extend over 4,000 square miles, and the final results deduced from observations made over 2,600 square miles have been recorded.

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Transvaal Border.

The survey of the Transvaal border from Griqualand West to Ramathlabama has been completed.

Native Reserve, Demarcation of.

The following native reserves have been demarcated :—Taungs, Setlagoli, Molopo, Mosita, Kokwe, Vlakfontein, Tlaring, and Smouswani.

Land Commission Grants.

With the exception of the Stellaland farms, the demarcation of the land granted to Europeans by the Land Commission is approaching completion.

Extension of Surveys.

The surveys of farms granted in the Taungs, Kuruman, and Mafeking districts being so far advanced it will no doubt be considered necessary to extend the surveys during the approaching financial year towards the Langbergen.

In that district, which is said to be suitable for sheep farming, provision must in the first instance be made for the requirements of the Batlaros, and such natives as may be living at Katoos, Khosis, Gamogara, and other places between Kamani Berg and the Langbergen.

The native reserves having been laid out the remainder of the land in that district may be surveyed and offered for sale, with a prospect of an increase in the returns under the head of the General Revenue representing such transactions, and of a more speedy return in the sums advanced for the surveys of those lands than has hitherto been possible.

Forest Land.

At Katoos and other places to the westward of Kuruman there are fairly large patches of forest land. Much of the timber has been cut down and sold in the Kimberley market; but it would no doubt be possible, with no loss to the revenue, to appoint a wood ranger who, under some approved system, would sell on behalf of the Crown fuel and timber which have attained maturity, but who would prevent the indiscriminate felling of young and growing trees which now prevails. Indeed, the whole system now obtaining, by which on payment of a comparatively small license fee any person may cut down timber promiscuously on Crown land, seems to require improvement. The prevailing practice, moreover, by which on payment of a nominal sum absentee proprietors, who have absolutely no interest in the country beyond the amount for which they can sell their land, permit these unoccupied farms to

be denuded of timber, to the permanent detriment of the country in general, seems to point to the necessity of some drastic measure which would effectually put a stop to this evil.

I would suggest that an export tax be imposed on all camel thorn, and on all immature timber suitable for commercial purposes; and no doubt some system could be devised by which this tax could be collected by the existing police force on the borders.

The camel thorn when growing affords shelter to stock, and so enhances the value of a farm, but when cut down can be used only for fuel.

Royalties.

It had been my wish to have commenced a geological survey of the territory this year, but the absolute necessity for economy in the face of the vast disproportion under existing circumstances between the revenue and expenditure necessitates a delay for the present. This geological survey was intended not only to examine the localities in which gold has been reported to exist, but also to search for lead, coal, and other minerals of which there are indications in this territory. In view of the probability of the development of such mines in the near future it might be worthy of consideration whether a proclamation should not be issued levying a royalty upon the output of such mines.

Under present circumstances the whole profit of such mineral wealth accrues to the proprietors of the land upon which it is situated; the reservation of mining to the Crown being limited in the title deeds to precious stones and precious minerals only.

A. H. F. DUNCAN,
Surveyor General.

Vryburg, September 28, 1888.

Enclosure 5.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER.

Protectorate Post.

During the last few months arrangements have been completed for the extension of our postal system for 500 miles beyond the northern boundary of British Bechuanaland, through the Protectorate, to the territory "within the sphere of British influence." The mails are conveyed by native runners weekly between Mafeking and Shoshong, and fortnightly between Shoshong and Gubulawayo, the capital of Matabeleland. Five postal agencies have been opened along the route, viz., at Kanye, Molepolole, Shoshong, Tati, and Gubulawayo. To defray expenses small extra charges are levied upon correspondence despatched and delivered. For letters these charges are 2*d.* per ½ oz. within the limits of the

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Protectorate, and 4*d.* per ½ oz. beyond those limits. To restrict the weight of mails within the carrying capacity of native runners neither books nor parcels are transmitted by this post, and heavy fees are charged upon newspapers. The postal agents are remunerated by a commission of 2½ per cent. upon the value of stamps sold by them, and 25 per cent. upon the amount of exra charges collected on correspondence delivered by them. Some of the ordinary British Bechuanaland stamps have been overprinted with the word "Protectorate" for use at these postal agencies. It is estimated that the receipts from sale of stamps for postal purposes proper and to stamp dealers for collectors will more than cover the expenditure to the end of the present financial year.

Post Offices.

Some changes have been made during the past year with regard to the post offices in this territory. There is now a postal money order office at Kuruman, and two new postal agencies have been opened. The agency at Pudumo has been closed in consequence of the post cart taking another route between Vryburg and Taungs, owing to the bad state of the Pudumo road. There are now four post offices at which money order business is transacted, and nine postal agencies.

Conveyance of Mails.

The contract for conveyance of mails between Kimberley and Mafeking, which should have expired on 31st March last, was renewed for a further term of 12 months without fresh tenders being called for. The amount fixed by the contract for this service was low, and the contractor gave notice on 1st August that as it did not pay him he would avail himself of the right of terminating the contract in four months from that date. During the year mails were often conveyed by the contractor's passenger carts free of charge; but as the changes in his time tables were so frequent it was thought advisable to cease to utilise these carts.

The mails for Kuruman were conveyed from Taungs by native runners until 30th June 1888, but the weight of correspondence by that time had increased so much that fresh arrangements had to be made, and the mails are now carried between Vryburg and Kuruman on horseback.

Circulation.

Annexed hereto are returns showing the number of letters, papers, &c., despatched to the United Kingdom and foreign countries, together with the postage affixed to the same; the number of registered letters received and despatched; and further, the number of ordinary South African paid and official letters and parcels despatched from the principal offices in this territory during the past twelve months. From these it appears that 4,982

letters, &c. were despatched to the United Kingdom and foreign countries, 66,485 to offices in South Africa, and 2,346 registered letters, making a total of 73,813 despatched during the year. This is an increase of 17,355 over the preceding twelve months' total. There has also been a steady increase in the weight of mails received from the Cape Colony, the number and weight of inland parcels being a striking feature in this.

Colonial and Foreign Parcels Post.

The public appear to be rather better acquainted now than they were at the date of the last annual report with the advantages to them of the agreement which came into operation on 3rd March 1887 for the exchange of parcels with the United Kingdom and foreign countries. Ninety-five parcels, valued at 100*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, were received during the past year. The Customs duty upon these amounted to 16*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, the whole of which is payable to the Cape Colony. The figures for the six months ending 31st August 1887 were 24 parcels, value 19*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*, Customs duty, 3*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* Amongst the articles received were medicine, jewellery, clothing, photographs, albums, cutlery, plated ware, wedding cake, fishing materials, Christmas cards, fancy articles, stationery, surgical instruments, and a revolver.

The parcels despatched during this period show a corresponding increase in number and a larger proportionate increase in value. The respective figures are as follows :—

	No.	Value.	Postage Paid.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Six months ending 31st August 1887 - - - -	19	54 3 10	3 17 4
Twelve months ending 31st August 1888 - - -	79	305 11 6	15 0 0

These parcels contained skins of birds and animals, karosses, fur caps, stamps, quartz, crewel-work, knobkerries, and wedding cake.

Dead or returned Letters.

The number of undelivered letters, &c. returned to the Cape Colony during the past year is as follows :—Paid letters 224, registered 5, official 4, books, &c. 37. This is about one fourth of the number which had failed to reach the addresees in British Bechuanaland during the previous year. The letters returned to their writers residing within the territory were only a few more than those returned last year, viz., 360 paid, 17 registered, 87 officials, and 14 books, &c. The total dealt with was 748 in 1887-8 as against 1,388 in 1886-7.

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Postage Stamps.

The postage and revenue stamps to which reference was made in the last annual report have been in use for postal purposes since 19th January last, and it is due to the issue of these that the financial statement of this department for the past year is such a satisfactory one. Stamp collectors in various parts of the world are material aids in making our postal revenue equal expenditure; the sale of stamps to dealers in England and elsewhere being far in excess of what would be expected by anyone not conversant with the actual figures.

Several denominations of the stamps supplied were identical in colour and size, so to render mistakes less easy it was deemed expedient to overprint the bulk of these with figures denoting more clearly the values which had been given them in words.

During the year it was discovered that forgeries of the old Stellaland postage stamps had been issued in Cape Town, but as the Cape Post Office Act of 1882 did not clearly provide for the punishment of forgers of stamps of other countries, and as the offence of printing them was committed prior to the passing of a later Act making such provision, no proceedings have been taken against the surviving forger.

Money Orders.

Annexed hereto is a statement of business transacted since 1st January 1887, when the Convention for the exchange of money orders with the Cape Colony came into force. The want of a bank in this territory for the facility of remitting sums of money is not felt by residents here now so much as it was prior to 1887. During the past year 1,649 orders, value 7,144*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, have been issued, and 491 orders, value 1,767*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, have been paid at the four offices in this territory, making a total of 2,140, value 9,912*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, as against 814, value 3,024*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, from 1st January to 31st August 1887. The premiums received during the year amount to 129*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*; but as the value of orders issued upon offices in the Cape Colony exceeds that drawn by offices in the Cape Colony upon offices in British Bechuanaland, the sum of 32*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*, being three fourths per cent. upon the difference, is payable to the Cape Colony. The commissions earned by postmasters for money orders issued and paid amounts to 19*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* only, and as the expense of printed forms, stationery, &c. does not exceed 10*l.*, there is a clear profit of about 67*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* on the money order branch of work.

Telegraphic Money Orders.

Since the 1st March last money orders have been transmitted between offices in the Cape Colony and Bechuanaland by telegraph. The charge for telegraphing the official advice is only 1*s.* for each order over the cost of an ordinary money order. This cheap and

speedy method of remitting is a great convenience to the general public, 121 orders, value 740*l.*, having been issued and 44 orders, value 316*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, having been paid by telegraph during the six months.

Postal Drafts.

The salient features of the Postal Drafts Convention with the Cape Colony were pointed out in the last annual report from this office. Forms of drafts for the collection by postmasters of sums of money not exceeding 10*l.* are signed by the creditors, who pay a fee of 6*d.* for each draft if one demand is to be made, or 9*d.* if they desire two demands to be made. When the postmaster succeeds in collecting the amount of the draft a commission of 6*d.* in the £ is charged. Under the provisions of the Postal Drafts Act, 1885, the presentation of a postal draft to the person upon whom it is drawn is of the same force and effect as a *legal demand*, and in any action or suit the mere production of a dishonoured draft, together with the postmaster's report thereon, is taken as evidence of the facts stated in such report, unless the contrary be proved. There were eight drafts for 30*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* drawn at offices in British Bechuanaland last year, as compared with seven drafts for 24*l.* 17*s.* during the three months ending 31st August 1887.

The drafts for collection received by postmasters in Bechuanaland during the past 12 months numbered 49, and amounted to 213*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, as against eight, value 26*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, to 31st August 1887. Of these, eight drafts, value 42*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, were duly honoured.

The following is an analysis of the result of attempts made by postmasters to collect postal drafts:—

Paid - - - -	·20
Liability denied and payment refused -	·23
Payees in communication with drawers -	·13
Left the territory - - - -	·39
Other reasons - - - -	·05

Financial Statement.

The general profit and loss account for the year ending 31st August 1887, which showed a loss of 628*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, was deemed most satisfactory when the scantiness of the population as compared with the size of the territory was taken into consideration. The annexed statement is even more satisfactory, for instead of a loss there has been a profit of 68*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* during the past year.

The greatest difference has been in the sale of stamps, &c., which amounted to 2,692*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* From this must be deducted the value affixed to telegrams despatched during the year, viz., 1,247*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, leaving the net postages at 1,445*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* The receipts the previous year for stamps were 655*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, the increase this year is, therefore, 789*l.* 18*s.* Towards this increase the

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Vryburg Post Office contributed 652*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, the postages at this place being thrice as much as they were for the twelve months ending 31st August 1887. As mentioned in another paragraph of this report, a number of stamps sold are never affixed to correspondence, but find their way into the albums of stamp collectors. When looked at from a business point of view each new variety of stamp issued represents a fresh source of profit.

The "unpaid postages" collected amount to only 36*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, being about 12*l.* 10*s.* less than the previous year. This indicates a better acquaintance with the fact that the rates to British Bechuanaland are slightly in excess of those to the Cape Colony from the United Kingdom and foreign countries.

The commissions received for money orders issued amounts to 129*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* During the eight months to 31st August 1887 the amount was 51*l.* 13*s.*, indicating an average of 77*l.* 10*s.* per annum. The increase is, therefore, at the rate of 50*l.* per annum.

The refunds to the postal department of the Cape Colony as detailed in the statement amount to 194*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* This is about 30*l.* more than the sum payable the previous year, and is on account of extra work done and revenue received in connexion with foreign parcels and money orders.

The debit side of the account includes items of expenditure for which liability was incurred, and therefore the payments actually made within the specified period will be found to differ to some extent. No items for the Protectorate post have been included. The expenditure upon this service has been more than covered by receipts to date.

General.

As all the officers engaged in post office work in this territory perform such duties in addition to those connected with other appointments which they hold, and as none of them had any experience of post office work prior to their arrival in Bechuanaland, it is not surprising that mistakes are made by most of them occasionally. Serious errors, however, are remarkably few, and when everything is taken into consideration the results achieved must be considered very satisfactory.

The thanks of the Government are due to the postal department of the Cape Colony for the cordial help given, and unvarying courtesy shown by the Postmaster General and his able assistants.

(Signed) ERNEST C. BAXTER,
Acting Postmaster General.

Statement showing Number and Value of Letters, Book Packets, &c. (exclusive of Official Correspondence) Despatched viâ the Cape Colony to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries from the principal Post Offices in British Bechuanaland during the Twelve Months ending 31*st August* 1888.

From.	Letters.		Books, &c.		Registered.		Total.	
	No.	Postage.	No.	Postage.	No.	Postage.	No.	Postage.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Vryburg - -	1,156	42 16 6	466	3 15 3	19	2 8 3	1,641	49 0 0
Mafeking - -	2,187	73 2 11	148	1 2 6	29	2 8 2½	2,364	76 13 7½
Taung - -	788	26 5 2	80	0 15 2½	30	2 12 11	898	29 13 3½
	4,131	142 4 7	694	5 12 11½	78	7 9 4½	4,903	155 6 11
Add foreign parcels - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	79	15 0 0
Total -	4,131	142 4 7	694	5 12 11½	78	7 9 4½	4,982	170 6 11
Tota for 12 months to 31st August 1887 -	4,316	146 19 10	414	3 19 4½	89	9 1 9	4,819	160 0 11½

Statement showing Number of Registered Letters Received at and Despatched from various Post Offices in British Bechuanaland during the Twelve Months ending 31*st August* 1888.

Office.	No. Despatched, 1887–8.	No. Received, 1887–8.	Total, 1887–8.	Total, Year ending 31st August 1887.
Vryburg - -	924	555	1,479	1,473
Mafeking - -	898	634	1,532	1,610
Taung - - -	307	75	382	470
Pudumo (closed May 1888) - - -	19	15	34	38
Setlagoli - - -	189	85	274	143
Bank's Drift - -	4	6	10	—
Kuruman - -	5	30	35	46
Total - -	2,346	1,400	3,746	3,780

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Statement showing Number of Paid and Official Letters and Parcels, &c. (exclusive of "Registered") Despatched from Bechuanaland Post Offices to other Offices in South Africa during the Twelve Months ending 31*st August* 1888.

Office.	Paid Letters.	Official Letters.	Parcels and Papers.	Total, 1887–8.	Total, 1886–7.
Vryburg - -	19,038	3,541	15,335	37,914	20,730
Mafeking - -	14,258	2,608	1,226	18,092	14,375
Taung - -	3,211	1,866	128	5,205	8,763
Pudumo - -	Now closed.				688
Setlagoli - -	2,259	281	54	2,594	2,976
Kuruman - -	2,196	467	17	2,680	1,574
Total - -	40,962	8,763	16,760	66,485	49,106

Statement of Money Orders—(A.) Issued, and (B.) paid, in British Bechuanaland from 1st January 1887 to 31st August 1888.

(A.) Orders Issued.

Office.	On Bechuanaland Offices.				On Cape Colony Offices.				Total.			
	For Eight Months to August 31, 1887.		Year ending August 31, 1888.		Eight Months to August 31, 1887.		Year to August 31, 1888.		Eight Months to August 31, 1887.		Year to August 31 1888.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Vryburg - - -	5	12 12 0	53	210 16 1	255	806 6 8	761	3,625 2 0	260	818 18 8	814	3,835 18 1
Mafeking - - -	8	32 5 9	34	84 9 8	251	772 17 3	346	1,057 6 3	259	805 3 0	380	1,141 15 11
Taung - - -	23	73 17 4	67	226 9 7	106	424 16 5	292	1,703 8 7	129	498 13 9	359	1,929 18 2
Kuruman - - -	—	—	14	36 4 0	—	—	82	200 12 8	—	—	96	236 16 8
Total - -	36	118 15 1	168	557 19 4	612	2,004 0 4	1,481	6,586 9 6	648	2,122 15 5	1,649	7,144 8 10

(B.) Orders Paid.

Office.	Bechuanaland.				From Cape Colony.				Total.			
	Eight Months to August 31, 1887.		Year to August 31, 1888.		Eight Months to August 31, 1887.		Year to August 31, 1888.		Eight Months to August 31, 1887.		Year to August 31, 1888.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Vryburg - - -	25	104 13 7	96	287 5 3	29	100 10 7	106	522 2 10	54	205 4 2	202	809 8 1
Mafeking - - -	7	9 18 0	51	201 10 4	84	598 6 9	203	1,648 14 9	91	608 4 9	254	1,850 5 1
Taung - - -	2	1 10 0	14	39 14 9	19	86 18 2	12	37 1 1	21	88 8 2	26	76 15 10
Kuruman - - -	—	—	6	19 3 6	—	—	3	12 5 9	—	—	9	31 9 3
Total - -	34	116 1 7	167	547 13 10	132	785 15 6	324	2,220 4 5	166	901 17 1	491	2,767 18 3

BRITISH BECHUANALAND POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

Approximate Profit and Loss Account for the Twelve Months ending 31st August 1888.

DR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	CR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To conveyance of mails :—			By postage stamps, &c. sold, viz. :—		
Kimberley to Mafeking - - - -	1,164 0 0		At Vryburg - - - -	1,300 14 2	
Taung to Kuruman, native runners - - -	41 7 9		Less telegraphs - - -	284 8 5	
Vryburg to Kuruman, two months at 12*l.* 10*s.* -	25 0 0				1,016 5 9
		1,230 7 9	At Mafeking - - - -	1,134 7 11	
To refunds to Cape Colony :—			Less telegraphs - - -	829 19 3	
For share of foreign postage - - - -	123 17 6				304 8 8
For share of unpaid postages - - - -	21 9 1		At Taung - - - - -	210 6 2	
For Customs dues on foreign parcels - - -	16 4 3		Less telegraphs - - -	132 14 11	
For balance of commission on money orders -	32 17 5				77 11 3
		194 8 3	At Kuruman - - - -	- -	46 16 7
To office contingencies :—			Total sales - - -	2,692 4 10	
Stores, stamps, printed forms, &c. - - -	—	60 18 0	Less telegraphs - -	1,247 2 7	
					1,445 2 3
To commissions earned by postmasters and vendors :—			By unpaid postages collected - - - -	—	36 5 3
2½ per cent. on 1,445*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, stamps sold - -	36 2 7				
1½*d.* each on 1,649 money orders issued - -	10 6 1		By money order commission :—		
1*d.* each on 2,140 money orders paid - - -	8 18 4		Vryburg - - - - - - -	67 18 3	
One half of commission received on postal drafts -	0 17 0		Mafeking - - - - - - -	23 18 3	
		56 4 0	Taung - - - - - - -	31 19 6	
To balance, profit for the 12 months - - -	—	68 13 9	Kuruman - - - - - - -	5 8 3	
					129 4 3
		1,610 11 9			1,610 11 9

Enclosure 6.

ANNUAL REPORT, SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPHS.

Mafeking, October 1, 1888.

FROM the attached report* of the Inspector, with which I fully concur, it will be seen that the working of the department has been fairly satisfactory during the past year; the only difficulties that have arisen being from the number of clerks who have left in consequence of obtaining better appointments elsewhere, and from the old thin military wire in use, which, as I have previously reported, was never fit for a permanent line, and should have been replaced by a proper telegraph wire.

The revenue, as I anticipated, has fallen off considerably since the Transvaal line was opened to Malmani. The expense of constructing a line to the Transvaal border was sanctioned some little time ago by Her Majesty's Government, but as the South African Republic Government did not agree to carry their line on to meet it, I reported that I did not consider the expenditure advisable, and it has not as yet been carried out. A junction of the two lines would undoubtedly be of great advantage, and I trust that the Transvaal Government will before long be brought to see its necessity; but extension on our side alone to the border, which is about nine miles from the nearest place from which any revenue might be expected, and which place has a telegraph office of its own, would, it appeared to me, entail a very considerable expense both in construction and maintenance, without any prospect of adequate return.

A considerable number of telegrams are now sent to and received from the Protectorate, and as communication is improved and the country opened up these will, no doubt, increase; if, however, affairs further northwards develop satisfactorily, I imagine that the question of telegraph extension in that direction will before long be brought under consideration.

In conclusion, I am glad to be able to say that the present staff of the department is efficient and reliable, and is much better than it has been for some time past. The audit and clerical work of the department cannot, however, be carried on properly with the present staff, which has been reduced to the lowest possible limit. Lately this work has been performed principally by the inspector, who has other more important duties to attend to, and who is necessarily frequently absent on duty.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
Superintendent Telegraphs,
British Bechuanaland.

* Not printed.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

Enclosures 7 and 8 are not printed.

Enclosure 9.

ANNUAL REPORT, INSPECTOR OF NATIVE RESERVES.

Vryburg, September 30, 1888.

IN accordance with instructions, I have the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, that during the last year, namely, from the 1st October 1887 to the present date, I have collected the amount of 1,282*l.* (one thousand two hundred and eighty-two pounds sterling) on account of hut tax, showing an increase of 103*l.* (one hundred and three pounds sterling) on the amount collected by me during the previous year ending 30th September 1887.

I have been continually travelling about the territory in order to collect the above-mentioned amount, and have been obliged to visit some parts, such as the "Morokwen Reserve," "Kuruman and "the Langberg Districts" twice and thrice during the year. Eventually, at Morokwen I was compelled to call for police assistance in order to enforce the payment of the tax; and at "Kuruman" I availed myself of the "Resident Magistrate's Court" to bring certain defaulters to account; also on two occasions I gained convictions against certain headmen for misappropriation of public money. It must be borne in mind that in certain parts of the territory the native has a very vague idea of the Government and its power; in fact, beyond seeing occasionally a stray policeman, or the collector of hut tax, the native knows nothing of the Government, and he thus fails to pay the tax more from ignorance than otherwise.

An occasional show of force, as witnessed at Morokwen, would have a very beneficial effect on the natives throughout the territory.

When once the various reserves are beaconed off and the natives located, I trust to be able to show a better total; but at present numbers escape payment by squatting on vacant farms and in out of the way places. During the present year I have, as far as practicable, been working through the Chiefs and headmen, that is, by arranging that their kraals be my collecting posts; but in almost every instance I have found that the plan has failed.

The Chiefs do not appear to have much power over their people, in fact their power is lessening every year. They do not appear to trouble themselves much about anything, but let matters take their course. Missionary influence has a deal to do with this, as unfortunately all the Chiefs among the "Baralongs" and the "Batlaros" under my supervision are heathens, and numbers of their people profess Christianity; these Christians ignore their Chiefs, and in cases of disputes, &c. between their own colour, instead of lodging their complaints before their Chiefs, rush off to their spiritual advisers for advice. Such proceedings are bound to affect the powers of the Chiefs and depreciate them in the eyes of their people.

With regard to this season's crops, they can be pronounced as very satisfactory throughout the territory.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. ST. QUINTIN,
Inspector of Native Reserves
and Collector of Hut Tax.

Enclosure 10.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STOREKEEPER.

Government Storekeeper's Department,
Vryburg, November 19, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit a first report from the new department of Government storekeeper.

By general instructions conveyed in a Despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, forwarded by his Excellency the Governor, the charge of all stores of warlike and of other description in the possession of the officer commanding Bechuanaland Border Police passed to charge of this department.

Accordingly all articles remaining on charge of that officer on March 31st, 1888, were transferred to a general store account, into which also were brought the stores of every description in possession at that date of all the heads of the civil departments.

So much of the stores of the nature of camp and field equipment, clothing, 7-pr. ordnance, small arms and ammunition, &c. as were necessary for the proper equipment of the police force at its strength of 200 were left on charge of the officer commanding in account with this department.

The remainder were removed to the new store built in the Government Reserve at Vryburg, as central reserve store.

On completion of the placing on charge of all the above stores and clothing, the value was taken and found to be as follows :—

General equipment stores, 7-pr. battery, transport, &c., at War Office prices, 11,081*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

Clothing for B. B. police constables and prisoners, 866*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

During the past six months stores to the value of 1,194*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* have been purchased and received from Ordnance Store Department, Crown Agents, and local purchase on the requisitions for the current year.

Damaged and worthless stores, and issues on repayment to the total amount of 495*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, have been written off by approved boards and credit vouchers.

The value of stores, &c. of the character before described at present on charge in the territory now stands at 12,666*l.*

The stores which were on charge of the officer commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police had been previously to August 1885 in use in the Bechuanaland mounted police, and in the Bechuanaland field force, and have now become, according to their particular character, more or less worn and expended.

The camp and field equipment from constant use has depreciated greatly, as also has the transport, most of the waggons of which service had been much used before being purchased for the Bechuanaland field force.

As, however, the establishment strength of the police force has been reduced since 1886, it has been possible to meet the camp

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

and field requirements by the using up of articles which had not been quite destroyed when the force was at its strongest.

It will not be possible to do this very much longer.

The 7-pr. battery of six pieces of steel ordnance, with all appurtenances for the field, has not been much used, and is therefore in good order.

The saddlery has become very much the worse for use, and a thorough refit under this head will be necessary.

Requisitions for the supply of clothing and all other articles will be sent early to the Crown Agents for execution, not only for the requirements of the police force, but for all articles of similar description wanted for the civil departments, which have hitherto been obtained from merchants in Cape Colony at higher prices for an inferior quality than those at which it is expected the Crown Agents will supply.

There has been a decrease in the number of horses on charge of the police, which has fallen from 228 on March 31st to 197 on September 30th, 1888.

The number on charge of administration in addition to this number is seven, giving a total of 204, which, valued at 12*l.* 10*s.* each, would give a total value under this head of 2,550*l.*

Casualties amongst mules have been light, 135 remain on charge, which at 8*l.* each would give a value of 1,080*l.*

For the transport of police in the Protectorate, the use of Assistant Commissioner, and the Inspector of Native Reserves, 77 oxen are now on charge, which at a valuation of 5*l.* each gives 385*l.* as total value.

The Telegraph Department reserve stores are on charge in General Store Account; the estimated value at present time the permanent line of 204 miles, instruments, office fixings, and reserve stores may be assumed at 3,959*l.* 7*s.*

Previously to the establishment of this department, stationery had been ordered by each head of department for his particular requirements for the current year.

The different vouchers by which these supplies have been paid have been passed to this department for record, so that an efficient examination of the incoming requisitions can be exercised before framing the consolidated requisition which will cover all requirements under this head for the ensuing year.

The expenditure on buildings which has been incurred during the past year will not be found in books of this department, but the buildings themselves are shown.

All material for fittings has appeared as taken on charge, and in the ordinary way has been converted in General Store ledger into manufactured articles.

All expenditure of other character on the buildings has been under the direction of a foreman of works at Vryburg, and the various heads of departments at other stations.

I would beg to suggest that, in the interests of economy, it would be desirable that all estimates for structure, repair, or fitting

should be passed for examination to one officer, who would be qualified and able, either by comparison with work performed or by professional knowledge, to recommend the proposed expenditure on a proper specification.

The buildings, which are central prison, gaols, offices, stores, and residences, and which have been purchased or erected by the Administration since 1885, are of the value at present time of 11,690*l.*

A regular and proper inspection of these buildings by a competent person is, I think, very desirable, as though built well after the fashion of the country, the character of the materials used, and the effect of climate on them, are such that constant repair is necessary to prevent dilapidation.

Grain and forage for Bechuanaland border police have been supplied by contract since April 1st, 1886.

The contract for the current year was placed with the previous contractors, at the rates of 21*s.* per bag of 200 lbs. of mealies, and 17*s.* per 100 lbs. of oat hay.

The commissariat account of the police force was, in accordance with the general instructions before referred to, transferred to this department, from which now all requisitions for supplies to stations in the territory are sent out.

Returns are forwarded from officer commanding through the quartermaster of the force, giving receipts and issues at the different stations, in similar manner to the returns rendered by officers commanding regiments or detachments to senior commissariat officers at military depôts.

The ration of grain and forage is regulated by the officer commanding the force, according to his judgment; but the estimated costs of 1*s.* 6*d.* per diem per horse, and 8*d.* per diem for mules, are not to be exceeded throughout the year.

It was considered before the establishment of this department, with offices in a central position in the territory, that the supply of grain and forage was better in the hands of one than more contractors; but I would submit that under present circumstances and the improved condition of the country the contract might, with great saving to the public service, be divided.

One district of supply should include Mafeking, its out-stations, and the Protectorate; another district embrace Taungs and Vryburg, with out-stations of those places.

In my experiences in Basutoland with Cape Colonial commissariat, I remember large quantities of grain being taken in lieu of cash for hut tax.

If not now, at some future time it might be found desirable to adopt a similar measure in this territory.

With the filling up of the splendid arable lands of this country with working settlers, the local supply of grain and forage will be much increased and prices reduced.

The sudden development of the Transvaal goldfields has attracted all the sellers of forage from the border to the Ranat

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

and other places, causing a scarcity, which will, however, be made up by the greater production in this territory.

For your information I would beg to state that on charge to the Administration at present time there are 574 stands of arms, Martini-Henry pattern, and 219 of Snider pattern.

It is now an important question, and will be more so if the coming anthrax season be a serious one in losses amongst mules, whether the substitution of oxen for mules in the transport service is not possible without sacrificing efficiency and yet effecting a very large saving annually.

"Transport," including mealies for mules, harness, and repairs of waggons, causes a demand on the estimates of about 1,000*l.* per annum.

Eighty (80) oxen purchased at a first cost of 400*l.* would, in addition to those now in use, do all the work required, and if carefully weeded out and exchanged from time to time would probably not require a provision of more than 100*l.* per annum to keep that number in efficient working order.

Harness would not be necessary, and repairs of waggons would be much reduced in cost.

Mules cannot be used above Kanya, so for the service of any of the police in the Protectorate the present arrangement is of no use in the district which will probably be the most active field of police services.

The 18 mules which are now kept for the special use of officers of the civil departments on duty will be found to effect a considerable reduction in what would probably be the amount paid during the year for travelling, besides enabling an officer on urgent duty, such as often falls to a medical officer, to start at once as soon as he receives orders.

The regulations issued on your approval for the general working of the store accounting and supply system between heads of departments and this office have, I am pleased to say, worked well.

Two very desirable results from the formation of this department will be, that in consolidating the requisitions from different services and getting all stores from Crown Agents, instead of in part from Cape Colonial and local sources, great saving will be effected, and that having one central reserve store unnecessary reserves at the different stations will be avoided.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. GOODYEAR,
Government Store Keeper.

Enclosure 11.

ANNUAL REPORT, CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, VRYBURG.

SINCE last year's report no very important changes have taken place in this district, farmers appear to be doing well, very few complaints are heard, except about the scarcity of labour, no doubt due to the plentiful harvests reaped by the natives.

2. The building of a Dutch Reformed Church has been commenced, the foundation stone of which was laid by his Honour the Administrator on the 27th June. This building is being built entirely of stone, which is particularly suitable for building purposes.

3. Wood-cutting is still going on to a very great extent, and how to stop this wholesale destruction of timber is a difficult matter, as farmers maintain they depend on that at present to a great extent for a living.

4. A survey for the extension of a railway through Bechuanaland is now being made, which when completed will no doubt have a very beneficial effect on this country, especially to this district, as all the material and merchandize for the goldfields at Klerksdorp, Riebkuil, and even Witwatersrand in the Transvaal will then be conveyed from here.

5. Farmers are paying a great deal of attention to cattle breeding, for which this district is especially adapted. I am sorry to say the lung sickness has been rather prevalent this year, and although every means is used in my power to stop this disease I find it a very difficult matter, as farmers generally are unwilling to prosecute one another.

6. This district has been proved beyond a doubt to be well adapted for growing all kinds of cereals. Of seven buckets of wheat sown near Vryburg, on the farm Tiger Kluuf, fully eighty (80) bags were returned; some of this wheat was sent to the Grahams Town Exhibition, and I am informed was highly recommended.

Very few stock thefts I am pleased to say have taken place this year, no doubt due to a great extent to the detachments of police stationed at different places in the country, and also to the splendid harvests reaped this year. Mealies and Kaffir corn selling now at 3*s.* 6*d.* per 100 pounds.

8. As farmers are now paying a great deal of attention to the cultivation of tobacco, I would here call attention again to the heavy duty they have to pay when taking this product to any of the colonial markets; as I must admit that they are very heavily handicapped in this respect I shall be glad when the Colonial Government can see its way clear to remove this restriction.

9. I am sorry to say that veldt burning has taken place to a great extent this year. Three convictions have taken place, one against a European and two against natives.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

10. The central gaol is now, I am pleased to say, completed, having been taken over by me from the contractors on the 25th September last. The gaol is substantially built of stone, has sufficient accommodation for 100 prisoners, including hospital, female and debtors' wards.

11. During the last twelve months there were only 96 criminal cases, which is about half the number tried the previous year, and almost all for very minor offences; the only serious cattle thefts committed were by two Europeans, who were both convicted.

12. There were 71 civil cases, out of three appeals in civil cases one was allowed and two dismissed.

13. I regret to have to report the death of Mr. P. J. Truter, late Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate, who died during the month of August last. Owing to his sickness, which extended over a period of nearly twelve months, very heavy duties have devolved on all the officials in this office, and I take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Baxter for his able assistance in the performance of my onerous duties.

I may safely say that this district is progressing steadily, some well-to-do farmers from the Free State and the Colony have lately bought farms in the district, and all are well pleased, and speak highly of the country as to its capabilities for pasturing stock.

(Signed) C. B. SCHOLTZ,
Acting Civil Commissioner
and Resident Magistrate.

Enclosure 12.

ANNUAL REPORT, DISTRICT SURGEON, VRIBURG.

Vryburg, September 30, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the past twelve months the district of Vryburg has been fairly healthy.

In the district, measles and diphtheria have been very prevalent. In the township two cases of whooping cough, one of diphtheria, and several of measles have occurred.

These are the epidemic diseases recorded in the district during the last twelve months, one case of typhoid (imported) was recorded. The township of Vryburg is in a good sanitary condition, and the water supply is good in quality. The Government gaol used during the last twelve months has been very unsatisfactory, the accommodation being deficient for the number of prisoners. In consequence of the impure air, due to overcrowding of the cells, one prisoner succumbed to lung disease.

The sick report records nineteen (19) cases of disease amongst the prisoners during the past twelve months. The cases were all of a trivial nature, with the exception of four, namely, two cases of

rheumatism, one of inflammation of the lungs, and one case of dysentery.

Two deaths occurred during the last twelve months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILSON M. NUGENT.

Enclosure 13.

ANNUAL REPORT, CIVIL COMMISSIONER AND RESIDENT MAGISTRATE.

Mafeking, October 4, 1888.

OWING to the fine rains which fell last season the mealie and Kafir corn crops were very good, and the natives consequently have plenty of food, have stored a good deal, and sold considerable quantities of grain. They are accordingly well off and prosperous, and I have no doubt under the present Government will continue loyal and contented. There is very little crime in the district, especially among the Baralongs, who are a well conducted and law-abiding race. Unfortunately they are not a working class, and the labour question is already one of considerable difficulty, and this will, I fear, increase as the country becomes occupied and developed.

The members of the board of management and the divisional council resigned some little time ago, and although fresh nominations have been called for, no elections have taken place.

With regard to the sanitary condition of the district, I annex District Surgeon's report; it is, I think, satisfactory, with the exception of the spread of syphilis, which is a serious element of danger both to European and native population.

The public buildings are in good condition and sufficient for present requirements, though the gaol requires additional accommodation, so as to allow proper classification of prisoners, and a stone wall should be erected around it.

I endeavoured to get up a native agricultural show some little time ago, and Government offered a grant in aid, but on conditions which it was unfortunately found impossible to carry out, so it fell through. It is very desirable that the natives should be induced to improve their breeds of stock and to grow something besides Kafir corn, mealies, and pumpkins.

Some hundreds of trees have been raised from seed and will shortly be planted out, but funds are required to do anything in this line on a proper scale.

I have no opportunity of inspecting the roads in the district, and am therefore unable to report on them. Two of the drifts near Mafeking have, however, lately been repaired, and I have heard no complaints respecting any other part.

The progress of gold discoveries in the vicinity of this district has been disappointing. At Malmani several companies have

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

been started and a few batteries erected, but so far as I have been able to learn it cannot yet be said to have been proved that Malmani is a payable goldfield. From Kanya the reports are not encouraging, and in the district itself nothing of any value has been found. The reports from the country further up north are, however, much brighter, and it appears to be universally considered that Mashonaland, Matabeleland, and a portion of Khama's country are enormously rich. The prospect of railway extension up to these parts has rendered owners undesirous of parting with their property, but it can hardly be said as yet to have increased the value of landed property.

(Signed) R. TILLARD,
Civil Commissioner
and Resident Magistrate.

Enclosure 14.

ANNUAL REPORT, DISTRICT SURGEON, MAFEKING.

Mafeking, September 26, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the previous twelve months 26 cases of illness have occurred among the prisoners in the Mafeking Gaol.

Of this number, one case proved fatal from inflammation of the bowels, one native pauper was admitted to the gaol hospital suffering from leprosy, which case also proved fatal.

A few cases of measles, diphtheria, and fever, and many cases of syphilis, have come under my notice among the natives in the district.

The gaol has been kept, and is, in good sanitary condition. The extra half pound of meal allowed to prisoners on hard labour for a term of three or more months has caused much improvement in their physical condition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PIERCE GREEN,
District Surgeon.

Enclosure 15.

ANNUAL REPORT, RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, TAUNGS.

Administration of Justice.

Taungs, October 19, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Acting Administrator, that in framing the following report I have taken from the 1st October 1887 until the 30th September 1888; during that time there has been very little serious crime in

the district, there have been 83 criminal cases, 52 of which were convictions, among them were three cases of cattle theft, 16 petty thefts, six cases of drunkenness, and 15 assaults, and one conviction under section 60 of Laws and Regulations, British Bechuanaland. There have only been thirty-one (31) civil cases; disputes between natives of the tribe have been settled according to native law by their Chiefs satisfactorily; I have received no complaints against their decisions. I am of opinion that the system answers, as the natives understand their own laws better than ours, and get their cases settled at a cheaper rate than in our courts.

Revenue.

The revenue received for this district during the past twelve months amounts to 2,278*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, being 3*l.* 8*s.* 0½*d.* in excess of last year. Although the district is reduced in size by the formation of the Kuruman district, the increase is caused by the hut tax, which this year amounted to 1,052*l.*; in collecting it, I had the cordial assistance of the Chiefs Mankoroane, Batlasitsie, and Kantlapane.

Sanitary.

Lately there has been a deal of sickness among the natives, principally measles, from which many children have died.

Roads.

The main road from the Colony to this place is heavy from being chiefly through sandy veldt, but it cannot be improved from here to Pudumo; the road mostly used by travellers to Vryburg is a good road. 345*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, less 23*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* cost of tools, which are now on charge, was expended on this road by the Government when the post cart went by that road; the post contractor has now changed his road, which is not in good order, but I do not recommend any outlay on it, as in wet weather it will become impassable.

I have not been able to form a divisional council on account of the few white men occupying farms, and I am sorry to say they have not increased as I had hoped they would, as there is only one fresh farmer come on to his farm this year; nor have the farmers improved their farms; their excuse is the high quit-rent that 37 of the farms are at: there are only 14 farms in the district at the low rate.

Natives.

The natives, I am happy to say, have had a splendid season the last year for crops, and therefore seem very contented and happy; it has been their best season since 1881; besides what they are retaining for their own use, I estimate they have sold or bartered to the storekeepers about 35,000 bags of 200 pounds each. I

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND.

fear there is ill feeling, according to information I have received from the Rev. J. Brown, between the natives belonging to the church and the heathens, although I have not myself perceived it; he informs me that the Messrs. Levys have been setting the heathens against the churchmen. The natives' cattle do not look well, they are generally poor.

Buildings.

The court house is in good repair; the telegraph office ought to be plastered outside to protect the bricks; part of the out-buildings at the back of the court house were unroofed in a storm the early part of the year, the walls are rotten and are not worth the cost of the new wood that would be required to repair the roof. The gaol, the outer wall of the gaoler's house has given way, also one of the pillars of the entrance to the gaol is cracked; I would recommend that the wall of the house be taken down and re-built. There is also required to be built a room for the native constables, and a cook house.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY LOWE,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

P.S.—As my last annual report was up to the 30th August 1887, and this one is now reckoned from 1st October 1887, one month (September 1887) is left out between the two reports, during which time the revenue was 149*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

(Signed) STANLEY LOWE,
Resident Magistrate.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 50.

BERMUDA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 17.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1889.



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No.	Colony.	Year.
10	Natal	1887
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,

No. 50.

BERMUDA.

Governor NEWDEGATE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Bermuda, April 4, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith in duplicate the annual BlueBook of this Colony for the year 1888, together with the report of Mr. Archibald Alison, the Colonial Secretary, thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDW. N. NEWDEGATE, Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
Downing Street.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
SIR, Bermuda, March 15, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1888 :—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 29,372*l.* and the expenditure to 30,147*l.* Compared with 1887 the revenue shows an increase of 1,971*l.* and the expenditure an increase of 1,416*l.* As the expenditure, however, includes the sum of 1,200*l.*, applied in reducing the public debt of the Colony, these figures may be regarded as satisfactory.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1888 with that of 1887 :—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	22,612	4,789	27,401
1888 - - - -	24,806	4,566	29,372
Increase - - -	2,194	—	1,971
Decrease - - -	—	223	—

BERMUDA.

Expenditure.

	Salaries.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - - -	9,715	19,016	28,731
1888 - - - -	10,085	20,062	30,147
Increase - - -	370	1,046	1,416

An increase under every heading is noticeable in the Customs receipts last year when compared with 1887, except in the case of cigars, in which there is a slight decrease. The increase in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties amounted to 1,124*l.*; in malt liquor to 388*l.*, rum 171*l.*, other spirits 327*l.*, and wine 166*l.*

Compared with 1887 the following differences are shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Salaries for 1888 an increase of - -	369
Annuities and gratuities - -	303
Public Library - - - -	200
Miscellaneous payments - - -	129
Post Office (the ocean mail subsidy for nine months of 1887 not having been applied for till 1888 accounts principally for this increase) - - - -	943
Roads - - - - -	526
Whilst in agriculture there was a decrease of	146
Payment of public debt - - -	500
Gaols (less stone having been supplied for hard labour) - - - -	460
Police - - - - -	103

4. The returns of Imperial expenditure are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,200
Military establishments - - -	93,449

Compared with last year the latter return shows an increase of 5,835*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishment is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. The public debt was reduced by 1,200*l.*, and at the end of the year amounted to 8,614*l.*, made up as follows :—

	£
Causeway Debentures - - -	1,620
Savings Bank Loan - - -	894
New Government House Debentures -	6,100

The average rate of interest on the "Causeway" and "New Government House" Debentures is 4½ per cent.; on the Savings Bank Loan 2½ per cent.

Legislation.

6. Certain changes having been made by Letters Patent in the constitution of the Colony at the commencement of the year, by which the Executive Council was re-constructed and separated from the Legislative Council, it became necessary to call the Legislature together to pass an Act adapting the existing legislation of the Colony to the new constitution. During this special session, which lasted from the 1st to the 21st day of May, two Acts were passed, namely, "An Act relating to the Executive and "Legislative Councils of these Islands" and "An Act to regu- "late the salaries of the Clerks of the Executive and Legislative "Councils."

The regular session commenced on the 28th of May and closed on the 31st December.

During this period 26 Acts were passed; of these seven were merely continuing Acts, and five continuing Acts with slight amendments. Of the remainder the most noteworthy were "An "Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Coroners," and "An Act to amend the Ocean Mails Act." By the latter Act an additional sum is placed at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of subsidizing a line of steamships which has recently been established between Halifax, Bermuda, and Jamaica.

During this session 23 resolves were passed, appropriating 7,443*l.* for specific services not otherwise provided for by law.

Councils and Assembly.

7. There have been important changes made in the Executive and Legislative Councils this year. Formerly the councils consisted of the same members. Under the new constitution the councils are now composed as follows :—

Executive Council.

The senior Military Officer -	Ex-officio members under Royal Instructions dated 29th March 1888.
The Colonial Secretary - -	
The Attorney-General -	
The Receiver-General - -	
The Hon. W. H. Gosling -	Appointed by Royal Warrant dated 31st March 1888.
The Hon. James H. Trimingham	

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Legislative Council.

The Chief Justice (President)		Ex-officio members under Royal Instructions dated 29th March 1888.
The Colonial Secretary	-	
The Receiver-General	-	
The Hon. W. H. Gosling	-	Appointed by Royal Warrant dated 31st March 1888.
„ J. H. Trimingham	-	
„ E. Harvey	-	
„ J. H. Harvey	-	
„ G. S. Tucker	-	
„ T. N. Dill	-	
„ W. H. Wilkinson	-	

The following changes took place in the House of Assembly during the year :—

Mr. George Spurling was elected for St. George's parish in the room of the Honourable W. H. Wilkinson appointed a member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. N. Vesey was elected for Devonshire parish in the room of the Honourable T. N. Dill appointed a member of the Legislative Council; and Mr. J. J. Wilkinson was elected for Hamilton parish in the room of Mr. Jabez Outerbridge deceased.

Civil Service.

8. The following changes in office took place during the year :—

Lieut.-General T. L. Gallwey left Bermuda on the 23rd of August on the termination of his term of office as Governor.

Colonel Sandford, the Senior Military Officer in the command, administered the Government from that date till the 29th October, when the newly-appointed Governor, Lieut.-General E. Newdigate Newdegate, C.B., was sworn in.

Mr. Archibald Alison was appointed Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General, and assumed the duties of his offices on the 14th of May, vice Mr. Cavendish Boyle transferred to Gibraltar.

Mr. T. N. Dill was appointed, in March, Assistant Justice, vice Mr. E. Harvey resigned.

Mr. Allan F. Smith, acting clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office, and Mr. A. W. Pitt, acting clerk in the Post Office, were confirmed in their respective appointments on the 20th October.

Imports.

9. The total value of the imports in 1888 was 299,990*l.*, showing an increase when compared with 1887 of over 35,000*l.*

The imports from the United Kingdom, consisting principally of hardware, manufactured leather, oilman's stores, woollen goods, malt liquors and wine were valued at 82,985*l.*; from the British Colonies, 22,786*l.*; from the United States of America, 193,811*l.*; and from Germany, 408*l.*

Exports.

10. The total value of the exports in 1888 amounted to 99,650*l.* against 88,921*l.* in 1887. The exports to the United Kingdom were valued at 2,054*l.*, to the British Colonies 1,487*l.*, and to foreign countries 96,109*l.*

The satisfactory increase in the value of the exports is accounted for by the large amounts realised last year for onions and lily bulbs, over 176,000 crates of onions having been exported to the United States and Canada during the year, valued at 59,200*l.*, compared with an export in 1887 valued at 45,204*l.*; whilst the value of the lily bulbs exported in 1888 was 4,329*l.* compared with 1,886*l.* in 1887. The value of the potatoes exported in 1888 was over 27,000*l.*, being a little less than the previous year. The only vegetable produce which shows a material decrease is tomatoes, which in 1887 were valued at 6,396*l.*, whilst this year they were valued at only 1,535*l.* This was due to a small crop and not to a falling off in the price.

Population and Public Health.

11. The civilian population at the end of 1888 was estimated by the Registrar-General at 15,534, comprising 7,574 males and 7,960 females. Classified according to colour there were 6,155 white and 9,379 coloured persons.

The health of the Colony was fairly good, the number of deaths being 373, compared with a decennial average of 372·4, and but for the number of deaths occurring amongst the troops from enteric fever the returns under this heading would have been more satisfactory. There were 560 births registered, of which 84 were illegitimate, and 141 marriages.

Deputy Surgeon-General Wade, the Principal Medical Officer of the military forces in the Command, reports that the general health of the troops, with the exception of an epidemic of enteric fever during the last three months of the year, has been very good. The average strength was 1,349, admissions to hospitals 926; ratio per 1,000, 684·43, or 122·49 less than in 1887; deaths 24, or a proportion of 17·79 per 1,000; of these two were due to drowning and one to poisoning, which if deducted would reduce the proportion per 1,000 to 15·56. Average daily sick 46·47; average strength of women 90, no deaths; average strength of children 161, 7 deaths.

Deputy Surgeon-General D. Hilston, R.N., reports as follows:—During the past year the daily average strength of the naval forces at Bermuda, corrected for time, was 1,311; this includes 400 dockyard men and 286 men borne on the books of H.M.S. "Terror," and shows an increase of 256 over last year, when it was 1,055. In spite of this large increase the number of patients under treatment was considerably less than in 1887, viz., 675, as

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compared with 816, a decrease of 141; this decrease occurred chiefly under the head of diseases of the digestive system.

The health of Ireland Island has been remarkably good during the year, there having been an entire absence of all diseases of an epidemic or endemic nature, and not a single case of enteric fever occurred either among the residents on Ireland Island or in the ships of the squadron during their stay in Bermuda.

Of the five deaths that occurred only two were amongst the residents of Ireland Island, viz., one from chronic Bright's disease and one, an infant, from bronchitis.

The average number of women and children resident on Ireland Island has been about the same as in former years, 250. Thirteen births occurred during the year, viz., 7 males and 6 females.

Criminal Statistics.

12. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 525, as against 391 in the previous year, showing an increase of 134.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 485, of whom 289 were summarily convicted, 105 acquitted, 55 discharged, and 36 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 289 persons summarily convicted 229 were fined, 29 were imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 29 were peremptorily imprisoned, and two were bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-five cases were tried in the superior courts during the year. Judgment for the Crown was obtained in 20 cases, judgment for the prisoner in 4, and in one case the bill was thrown out by the grand jury.

Whilst the total number of offences reported and convictions obtained is considerably in excess of previous years, it is satisfactory to note that there were no convictions for the more serious crimes.

Gaols and Prisoners.

13. There were 139 persons committed to the prisons at Hamilton and St. George; of these, 72 were imprisoned for safe custody, and 67 for the purposes of penal imprisonment; 19 prisoners had been committed once previously, 10 twice, and 19 thrice or more; 129 of the prisoners were men and 10 were women.

The health of the prisoners was good; the daily average in prison being 14, and the daily average of sick slightly above one.

There were no deaths.

The total cost of the two prisons, including salaries, was 1,250*l*. The prisoners are employed in breaking stone for use on the public roads.

Lunatic Asylum.

14. Eight patients were admitted into the Lunatic Asylum; of these six were male and two female; three were discharged, and there were six deaths, two males and four females; three deaths occurred from apoplexy, one from epilepsy, one from diarrhœa, and one from concussion of the brain, caused by a blow from another patient.

The cost of the establishment, including salaries and wages of officers, was 1,274*l.*; the approximate cost of maintenance of each patient for the year was 36*l.* 10*s.*, and the weekly expense of their dieting was 5*s.* 8*d.*

Education.

15. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—23 aided schools, 1,182 scholars, of whom 625 were boys and 557 girls. School fees 787*l.*, Government contributions 1,117*l.* In 14 schools both instructors and scholars are coloured; in nine both are white; largest number in any school 133, smallest 20.

There are 1,500 children returned of school age, that is between 6 and 13 years of age, of whom 1,353 attended school, 127 are said to be taught at home, and 20 received no instruction.

There are no returns made from the private schools which number about 20.

Savings Bank.

16. The savings bank in Bermuda is in a flourishing condition. The invested funds amount to 15,737*l.*, whilst the liabilities are 14,528*l.* The revenue of the bank for 1888 was 440*l.*, and the expenditure, which includes all the expenses of management and interest credited to depositors, was 420*l.*

Meteorological.

17. The mean temperature as taken at the Government buildings was 72·9°. The coolest month was March, with a mean of 62·5°; the hottest, September, with a mean of 86·5°. The rainfall for the year was 57·39 inches. The largest quantity of rain fell during the month of December, when 8·10″ was registered. The largest amount that fell in any one day during the year was 2·31″, on the 27th January. The prevailing winds were south-west. Barometrical readings, mean 30·008

General.

18. 1888 was a fairly prosperous year. Remunerative prices were obtained in the New York markets for the staple products of the Islands, whilst the number of winter visitors showed a slight increase on former years.

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Considerable progress has been made with the re-building of Trinity Church in Hamilton, the largest church in the Colony, which was burnt down a few years ago, and it is hoped that before the end of the present year the building operations will be sufficiently advanced to admit of service being again held there.

The works at the new Government House, which have already cost the Colony nearly 9,000*l.*, have been discontinued, no money having been voted by the Legislature this year for carrying them on. It is feared that this delay, owing to the deterioration that must inevitably take place in the building, exposed as it is in its present unfinished state to all the force of the winter gales, will involve a considerable increase of expenditure in its completion.

I am indebted to Mr. William Fox, a leading merchant in this Colony, for the following observations :—

"The year 1888 exhibited a marked restoration and advance in the value of tomatoes, which the American brokers and local merchants attribute to the passing of a Tomato Inspection Act, by which tomatoes boxed for export are inspected on the wharf. So marked has been the benefit that hopes are quite distinctly stirred towards applying a system of general inspection to potatoes and onions. The plan, if it ever takes practical form, could not be expected to include scrutiny of each package as in tomatoes.

"The special early crop of potatoes grown from seed raised in Bermuda of 'Prolific' and 'Early Rose' varieties and ripe generally at Christmas, has up to 31st December given great promise and must not be overlooked among the benefits 1888 has conferred on the gardeners of Bermuda.

"The proposition made immediately after his arrival by the Governor, General Newdegate, to initiate measures to restore the old custom of holding agricultural exhibitions, nearly 25 years in disuse, has awakened a general good feeling among agriculturists and mechanics and will undoubtedly be generally beneficial."

Statistical Returns.

19. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below :—

Population.

Year	Males.	Females.	Total.
1887 - - -	7,478	7,869	15,347
1888 - - -	7,574	7,960	15,534

	1887.	1888.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	27,401	29,372
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	28,731	30,147
Customs revenue - - - - -	22,612	24,806
Public debt - - - - -	10,114	8,614
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	199,008	228,385
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	177,972	196,803
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	19,036	31,582
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	40,733	49,382
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	158,275	179,003
	£	£
Value of total imports - - - -	264,920	299,990
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -	71,833	82,985
Value of total exports - - - -	88,921	99,650
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom -	2,300	2,054

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Edward Newdigate Newdegate, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

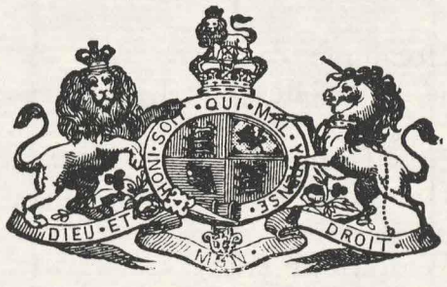
No. 54.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 30.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1889.



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No.	Colony.	Year.
5	New Zealand	1886
6	Tobago	1887
7	Gibraltar	,,
8	Gold Coast (Governor's Visit to the Eastern Districts)	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	British Bechuanaland	,,
44	Victoria	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turks Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,

No. 54.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Governor KERR to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands,
March 30, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1888, with the following report thereon :—

Taxes and Duties.

There was no alteration during 1888.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1888 was 8,951*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*, being 236*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* in excess of the estimated amount, which was 8,715*l.*

The excess under the several heads was as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Licenses - - - -	60	4	0
Rents, exclusive of land - -	8	14	2
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court and office - - - -	575	11	6
Land revenue - - -	24	13	10
Sale of Crown lands - - -	346	0	0
Interest on investments - -	0	2	6

The deficiencies were as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs - - - -	683	10	1
Sale of Government property - -	10	18	2
Postage - - - -	48	7	3
Miscellaneous receipts - -	25	5	9
Auction duty - - -	10	14	5

There was no aid received from Imperial funds.

The expenditure in 1888 was 8,818*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, or 419*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* less than the estimated amount, which, inclusive of a supplemental vote of 792*l.* for establishments, revenue services, works and buildings, and interest, was 9,238*l.*

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December 1888, inclusive of cash in the Colonial chest, 2,430*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, and in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 1,524*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, was 6,497*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*

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This balance includes 2,000*l.*, which has been invested in Colonial securities on account of land sales and 1,000*l.* on account of surplus funds. The interest on these investments amounted in 1888 to 105*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

The uninvested balance on the 31st of December 1888 was 3,497*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*

There is no Public Debt.

Public Works.

During the year 1888 the roads, streets, and drains in the town of Stanley were considerably extended and improved. Hebe Street and part of the Fitzroy Road, which had previously existed only in name, were formed and drained at a cost of 180*l.* A new road for the use of the inhabitants in carting peat from the western suburb and for a frontage to the adjacent land (which was sold during the year) was constructed and drained at a cost of 70*l.* The Barrack Road, Reservoir Road, and John Street were extensively repaired, and partial repairs were also made to other streets and drains in Stanley at a cost of 194*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, bringing up the total outlay on roads, streets, and drains to 444*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*

The re-construction of the reservoir, which was commenced in the previous year, was completed, the land round the spring in the suburbs was enclosed by a substantial fence, pipes were laid for the delivery of water to shipping, and a pump was connected with the reservoir for the use of the inhabitants, at a total cost of 218*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* Repairs and extensions of the sea-wall, the importation of a tramway with suitable waggons, a pile-driver, and other accessories for the improvement of the dockyard jetty, and for connecting it with the Customs store, cost 242*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The fences of the dockyard, the paddock, and the Government Garden were renewed at a cost of 148*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* The repairs of the court-house, barracks, infant school, the rebuilding of some of the Government House chimneys, as well as repairs almost amounting to re-construction of the gaol, which were only partially effected in 1888, cost 393*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*, making, inclusive of 40*l.* for cutting peat, which is a sub-head in the estimate for Public Works, a total sum of 1,488*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*

Legislation.

Seven Ordinances were passed in 1888 :—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to establish a Government Savings Bank.

This Ordinance was passed on the 20th of January ; it received the Royal Assent on the 10th of March and came into operation on the 2nd of April following.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the service of the Colony of the Falkland Islands for the year 1887.

This Ordinance was passed on the 10th of March, and received the Royal Assent on 10th of May following.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to prevent and punish the issue and use of imitation postage stamps.

This Ordinance was passed on the 12th of May, and received the Royal Assent on the 3rd of July following.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to make further provision for the service of the Colony of the Falkland Islands for the year 1888.

This Ordinance was passed on the 17th of September, and received the Royal Assent on the 23rd of November following.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of the Falkland Islands for the year 1889.

This Ordinance was passed on the 17th of September, and received the Royal Assent on the 23rd of November following.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to make provision for enlarging the cemetery in the town of Stanley, and for the appointment of a Burial Board.

This Ordinance was passed on the 17th of September, and was on the same day transmitted to be submitted for Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and allowance. It was returned for the purpose of being amended, and it did not come into operation during the year.

No. 7.—An Ordinance for incorporating the Stanley Assembly Room Company, established in the Falkland Islands, with limited liability.

This Ordinance was passed on the 17th of September, and received the Royal Assent on the 8th of December following.

Legislative Council.

Mr. George Markham Dean, who was the senior unofficial member of the Legislative Council, died at sea while returning to the Colony from leave of absence on the 1st of April.

Mr. John James Felton was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 16th of July while absent in England, and did not take his seat during the year.

Mr. F. E. Cobb was absent on leave from the 19th of March to the end of the year.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. E. Pakenham Brooks, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, Police Magistrate, &c., returned to the Colony from leave of absence on the 17th of February, prior to which the duties of his several offices were performed by Mr. H. B. L. Jameson, Government Clerk, and Mr. Mark Kerr, the Governor's Private Secretary.

Mr. Andrew Joseph Going was appointed Assistant Colonial Surgeon on the 29th of February, in the place of Mr. A. T. Anderson, who died on the 20th May 1887. Mr. Going arrived in the Colony and assumed his duties on the 15th of April, when he was appointed Coroner for the West Falkland and adjacent islands, a Justice of the Peace, and Assistant Collector of Customs.

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The Reverend Patrick Joseph Diamond, a Roman Catholic Priest, arrived in the Colony on the 19th of April, to succeed the Reverend James Foran as Roman Catholic Priest in this Colony.

Miss F. M. Prior was appointed an assistant teacher in the infant school on the 1st of March, in the place of Miss E. Elmer, deceased.

Mr. E. Pakenham Brooks, Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. H. B. L. Jameson, Government Clerk, were appointed on the 2nd of April to be respectively treasurer and clerk of the Government Savings Bank, with salaries at the rate of 50*l.* per annum for the treasurer, and 30*l.* per annum for the clerk.

The office of Shipping Master, payable by fees averaging 30*l.* per annum, was transferred from Mr. E. Pakenham Brooks to Mr. H. B. L. Jameson, Mr. Brooks receiving an addition of 30*l.* a year to his salary in compensation for loss of fees.

Pensions.

There was no change under this head. The annual charge for pensions continued to be 235*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

Population.

There were 75 births during 1888, of which number 43 were males and 32 were females.

There were 11 marriages.

Twenty-eight deaths were registered, of which number 12 were males and 16 were females.

The causes of death were as follows:—

Old age	1
Debility	1
Inanition (infant)	1
Convulsions	4
Syncope	1
Heart disease	1
Inflammation of the brain	1
Dropsy	1
Bronchitis	4
Phthisis	5
Cancer	1
Spinal sclerosis	1
Typho gastritis	1
Typhoid pneumonia	1
Hepatic cirrhosis	1
Tabes mesenterica	1
Childbirth	1
Murdered	1
Total	28

There was an unusual prevalence of illness in Stanley during the winter.

In June the severity of the weather was reported by the Colonial Surgeon to have been the cause of much suffering from bronchitis, pneumonia, catarrh, and rheumatism, and to have largely augmented infantile diseases. In August there was a severe and alarming epidemic of measles in Stanley, from which about one third of the inhabitants of the town suffered. There were no deaths from the disease, which did not spread beyond the limits of the Settlement, and although two persons crossed over to the West Falkland Island while affected by it, only one other case occurred in that part of the Colony.

The following report of the Colonial Surgeon applies only to Stanley, beyond which his practice does not extend:—

The Colonial Surgeon to the Colonial Secretary.

"SIR,

"I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the Annual Medical Report on the sanitary condition of Stanley for the year ending December 31st, 1888.

"The month of June was ushered in with much severity, consequently a great number of people suffered from bronchitis, pneumonia, catarrh, febrilla, and rheumatism, and the diseases peculiar to childhood largely augmented. The latter end of August we had an epidemic of measles, which spread rapidly and increased in severity until it assumed an alarming character, nearly every house in the Settlement being visited by the malady. It steadily continued its course, taxing my exertions to the uttermost, until nearly every child and a large number of adults had suffered from its effects.

"It was not until late in the month of October when it showed visible signs of abatement. I may add that this disease was not endemic, and certainly was imported into the Settlement.

"Since the decline of measles the Settlement is in a tolerably healthy state, very few diseases of a preventable nature existing. The recent epidemic has in many instances left the usual sequelæ behind in the form of phthisis, nephritis, &c.

"I have, &c.

"S. HAMILTON, F.R.C.S., M.C.P."

The following report from the Assistant Colonial Surgeon is almost too long for insertion here, although I have somewhat condensed it in form and detail; but as it is the only statement which has hitherto been prepared respecting the condition of the population in that important portion of the Colony, I have been unwilling to omit it.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

The Assistant Colonial Surgeon to the Colonial Secretary.

"SIR,

"IN order to render the subject simpler, I have in this report described the sanitary condition of each Settlement first, and then added some remarks as to the general condition of health of the people living in these parts.

1. *East Fox Bay.*

"Has three houses at the Settlement, and four detached shepherds' houses. Population 29; one birth (stillborn), two deaths from phthisis, one case of infectious disease (measles, brought from Stanley, did not spread).

2. *West Fox Bay.*

"Has two houses at the Settlement, and three detached houses. Population 20; one birth, one death (paralysis), no infectious disease, two cases of diarrhœa.

3. *Spring Point.*

"Has two houses at the Settlement, and two detached houses. Population 10; no births, deaths, or disease.

4. *Weddell Island.*

"Has two houses at the Settlement. Population 15; one birth, no deaths, no disease.

5. *Beaver Island.*

"Has three houses. Population 17; one birth, no deaths, no disease.

6. *New Island.*

"No particulars as to number of houses or inhabitants; no births, deaths, or disease.

7. *Carcass Island.*

"No information, except that no infectious disease has occurred during the year.

8. *Port Stephens.*

"Has four houses at the Settlement, and eight detached houses. Population 39; no births or deaths, and no disease.

9. *Chartres River.*

"Has two houses at the Settlement; and two detached houses. Population 19; no births or deaths, and no disease except a few cases of diarrhœa.

10. *Roy Cove.*

"Has four houses at the Settlement, and four detached houses. Population 53; four births, one death (tubercular meningitis), two cases of sore throat, due most likely to infection.

11. *Hill Cove and Shallow Bay.*

"There are six houses at the Settlements, and three detached houses. Population 41; one birth, no deaths, two cases of measles, one imported from Stanley, the other caught from that. Diarrhœa very prevalent and severe (one child nearly died at Main Point), epidemic nasal catarrh constantly present.

12. *Saunders Island.*

"Has four houses. Population 15; no births or deaths, and no disease.

13. *Keppel Island (Mission Station).*

"Population, 4 whites and 20 Fuegians; no births or deaths. Epidemic catarrh of air passages prevalent. Fuegians well cared for, well clothed, and well nourished; more intelligent than usually supposed. Riddled, however, with strumous and tubercular disease. The majority after living at Keppel a few years break down, presenting the well-marked features of tubercular phthisis. I cannot find evidence of any white man contracting phthisis in this island, although in constant contact with phthisical subjects.

14. *Port Howard.*

"Has seven houses at the Settlement, and five detached houses. Population 42; two births, one death, no infectious disease, diarrhœa prevalent.

"At all the stations and houses the water supply is ample and, with few exceptions, very good.

"Earth-closets are universally used, and the excreta applied as manure.

"General remarks on the whole district:—

"Diet. The most general articles of diet are mutton and bread, and excessive quantities of tea and coffee. The most common kinds of vegetables are dried beans and rice. In the summer fresh milk and butter can be obtained, but this is not the case in winter. Then tinned milk and tinned butter are used; the former, as is well

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

known, contains an excessive amount of sugar, and is by no means a substitute for milk. The tinned butter comes from Denmark, as to its quality I can say nothing, but more cows suffer from tubercular disease in Denmark than in any other country in Europe.

"A large amount of the hot sauces are used out here, which is decidedly bad. The cooking is badly done; the meat and bread are thus served up in their most indigestible forms. Regular, well cooked meals, so essential to the ultimate well-being of a people, are characterised by their absence. All the people are well clothed. There is no overcrowding. As to the amount of alcohol consumed, it may be said to be at a minimum; this is not due to the spread of temperance, but to the most excellent rule made by the farmers of only allowing the workpeople to have a non-intoxicating amount. Another unmitigated blessing is the absence of drinking shops.

"With regard to the children born in this district, they are certainly below the ordinary standard. The rising generation are distinguished by their weedy growth, their narrow rachitic looking chests, their flabby muscles, their coarse scaly skins, their dry uncertain-coloured hair, their slowly contracting and generally dilated condition of pupils, &c. Most of the children suffer from constipation and other disturbances of their alimentary tracks. Their teeth also decay early. I have not seen any cases of congenital syphilis.

"There is no lunacy or idiotcy. No epilepsy nor hysteria. I have seen no pneumonia or acute cardiac affections.

"The houses, with one or two exceptions, are built of wood, with iron roofs and stone chimneys. There is no definite system of drainage; there are, however, no cesspools. The houses are for the most part built on piles, and consist of a ground floor and one storey. No cellars. Peat is used for firing with few exceptions. A shepherd's house consists generally of four fairly sized rooms.

"I have, &c.

"J. A. GOING,

"Assistant Colonial Surgeon."

The number of the population, which on the 31st of December 1887, was assumed to be 1,843, was increased during 1888 by 47, being the excess of births over deaths, and may therefore be (approximately) stated as 1,890 on the 31st of December 1888.

Education.

The Report of the Colonial Chaplain, as School Inspector, is as follows:—

Education Report for 1888.

The number of children under 15 years of age in the Falkland Islands is, as nearly as I can compute, 600, distributed thus: 300 in Stanley, 150 in the Falkland Islands Company's "camp," and 150 throughout the rest of the islands.

During the year 1888 the usual routine of school work, as approved by his Excellency the Governor-in-Council, was carried out in the Government schools in Stanley.

But in the latter part of the year an epidemic of measles raged with peculiar virulence among the inhabitants of the Settlement, both children as well as adults. In consequence, the senior school was closed from September 18th to November 5th, and the infant school from September 6th to November 5th.

The number of children on the rolls and the average attendance was as follows:—

Senior School.

Boys on the roll - - - -	47
Average attendance - - - -	36
Girls on the roll - - - -	48
Average attendance - - - -	28

Infant School.

Boys on the roll - - - -	46
Average attendance - - - -	26
Girls on the roll - - - -	63
Average attendance - - - -	29

There is still an average of 25 children who attend so irregularly, only now and again at long intervals, that practically they are receiving no instruction.

The children's Penny Savings Bank has continued its operations during the year.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposited in 1888 - - -	197	5	5
Withdrawn - - - -	304	19	4
Balance in Government Savings Bank, December 31st, 1888 -	484	4	9

Several depositors withdrew their deposits to open accounts in the Government Savings Bank.

The Falkland Islands Company's school in Darwin was closed during the greatest part of the year through the absence of the schoolmaster at home on leave.

When visiting the West Falkland Island and six of the small adjacent islands in October and November 1888 I examined 50 children, all of whom were receiving some instruction from their parents, but in many instances it is but little that they can do, owing to the defective education of the parents themselves.

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Nothing has been done either by the Colonial Government or the sheep farmers to promote the education of the children of employés in the "camp," with the exception of the Falkland Islands Company, whose school at Darwin was, however, closed for the greater part of the year, in any case a very small percentage of the children in their "camp" is within reach of the school, the settlement of families in Darwin being discouraged.

I most respectfully recommend :—

1st. That education be made compulsory in Stanley.

2nd. That an additional grant be made to the schools—

(*a.*) Of 18*l.* per annum for a sewing mistress to instruct the girls attending the senior school in sewing. A sewing mistress was paid for some time by subscription raised by the schoolmaster, but the matter has fallen through and there is now no instruction given in sewing.

(*b.*) Of 6*l.* per annum for a junior assistant in the infant school during the six summer months. Many camp children come into Stanley while their fathers are out of work, these backward children are sent to the infant school and cannot receive requisite attention when there is an average attendance of between 70 and 80 children, which takes place from October to March both inclusive.

3rd. That inquiries be made in other older Colonies with, like the Falkland Islands, a scattered country population as to what steps are taken for the education of the children in country districts.

4th. That some regulations should be drawn up by which, under certain conditions, the payment of school fees might not be required from (*a*) widows; (*b*) women deserted by their husbands; (*c*) fathers who are incapable of working; (*d*) fathers who are out of work; and (*e*) fathers who at much expense board their children in Stanley for their education.

I have paid yearly several pounds out of my own pocket as school fees for some of the poorer children.

LOWTHER E. BRANDON,
Government School Inspector.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1888 was 54,008*l.*, in 1887 it was 66,785*l.*, and in 1886 it was 73,602*l.*

The value of the exports in 1888 was 88,743*l.*, in 1887 it was 107,995*l.*, and in 1886 it was 108,946*l.*

The following table represents the relative value of the several articles of export during the six years ending with 1888.

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wool	68,313	74,625	82,113	72,998	80,065	76,573
Tallow	8,735	13,313	3,360	3,640	4,475	2,799
Sheep skins	4,345	5,686	5,125	3,813	5,039	5,932
Hides	2,775	4,242	4,727	1,850	515	906
Old metal	306	196	350	—	70	—
Sealskins	—	191	—	—	12	388
Seal oil	—	125	—	—	—	—
Hair, bones, &c.	118	62	93	8	—	29
Live sheep	2,400	2,720	2,078	10,949	3,314	1,118
Live horses	—	150	—	—	—	—
Frozen mutton	—	—	—	15,070	13,882	—
Live geese	—	—	—	18	—	—
Specie	—	—	—	—	623	675
Imports re-exported. Sheep dip	—	—	—	—	—	205
Groceries and oilman's stores	—	—	—	—	—	16
Timber and building materials	—	—	—	—	—	25
Malt liquor	—	—	—	—	—	5
Empty bags	—	—	—	—	—	72
Total	86,992	101,338	97,846	108,946	107,995	88,743

Shipping.

Twenty-one sailing vessels arrived in the Colony in 1888. The tonnage of the whole was 8,132, and the crews numbered 264.

Of these, 13 were engaged in the trade of the Colony, and they arrived at the following places:—

Port Stanley	7
Beaver Island	1
Roy Cove	2
San Carlos	1
Teal Inlet	1
Shallow Bay	1

Of the remaining eight, one came to land a seaman disabled by a fall from aloft. Three were in want of provisions and water, and four had been damaged by storms at sea. The disabled vessels were repaired and proceeded on their voyages.

Fourteen steamships of the Kosmos line arrived during the year, twelve of them in accordance with the mail contract, and two extra vessels for cargo.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

The steamer "Nithsdale" from London brought out stores for several sheep-farming stations on the East and West Islands, and took a full cargo for London without coming to Port Stanley.

Her Majesty's ships "Ruby," "Swallow," and "Flamingo," of the South-East Coast of America squadron, visited the islands during the close time of the seal-fishery, and H.M.S. "Diamond" called at Stanley on her homeward voyage from Australia.

Criminal Statistics.

There was no case for trial in the Supreme Court during the year.

Twenty-nine persons were summarily convicted by the Police Magistrate during the year. Of these, one was bound over to keep the peace, 19 were punished by fines, and nine were peremptorily imprisoned for short periods, the latter being refractory seamen, for offences under the Merchant Shipping Acts.

No inhabitant of the Colony suffered imprisonment, and the gaol was empty for nearly the whole of the year.

A coroner's inquest was held on the 11th of February on the body of a seaman who was found dying and unconscious on one of the jetties in Stanley during the previous night, with fatal injuries on the head. A verdict of wilful murder, against some person unknown, was returned, but the murderer was not discovered.

Savings Banks and Friendly Societies.

By an Ordnance passed on the 20th of January 1888 a Government Savings Bank was established in the Colony. The bank was opened for business on the 2nd of April following. The number of depositors on the 31st of December was 52, and the amount of deposits on that date was 8,407*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*

The amount of withdrawals during the year was 149*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, and the total amount at the credit of depositors on the 31st of December was 8,258*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

The rate of interest on deposits is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The amount of funds invested during the year was 6,000*l.*, the revenue from which was 43*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*

The expenses of management consist of salaries paid to the Colonial Treasurer and to the Government Clerk for services in connexion with the bank, and amount, in the whole, to 80*l.* per annum.

The only Friendly Society in the Colony is the Stanley Benefit Club, which was established in 1859 as a burial club and for the relief of members during sickness.

The receipts of the club in 1888 amounted to 125*l.*, and the sums paid to members during sickness and for burials to 22*l.* 12s. 9*d.* The club also contributed 10*l.* for the Imperial Institute.

The capital of the club is 836*l.* 19*s.*

General Remarks.

The winter of 1888 was not so severe as that of the preceding year—except during the months of June and July—but it was very protracted and vegetation was retarded until very late in the spring, rendering the vegetable gardens more than usually unproductive. It was not, however, so injurious in its effects on the sheep during and after the lambing season, which was reported as being on the whole a favourable one.

The condition of the Colony was prosperous notwithstanding the decrease in the value of the exports as compared with the four years immediately preceding, which was occasioned chiefly by the cessation in the export of frozen mutton. This export will probably soon be revived, and arrangements were entered into before the close of the year for a new enterprise in the same direction—the transport of live sheep from the Colony by fast steamers for the London market, concerning which the promoters seemed sanguine of success. Meanwhile the flocks are increasing in number and in value in all the districts which are not yet fully stocked.

The number of vessels arriving at Port Stanley during the year was considerably less than the average. There was a falling off in the amount of Customs duties, and the artizans and labourers in Stanley did not find as remunerative employment as usual owing to the small number of vessels which required repairs and re-fitting. This diminution of earnings, however, was not so great as to occasion want or distress.

The establishment of a Government Savings Bank during the year supplied a want which had been long felt. Accumulated savings which had in many instances been unproductive and unsafe were being rapidly deposited. Upwards of 8,000*l.* had been paid into the bank before the end of the year, and there was every probability that this amount would in a short time be more than doubled, and that the deposits would ere long represent at least 1*l.* per caput of the population.

Except for an epidemic of measles, which it is supposed was introduced from one of the mail steamers, and which caused much suffering and alarm in Stanley, the Colony has been healthy, and no deaths were directly attributable to the epidemic.

The financial position of the Colony continued to be satisfactory. The revenue amounted to 8,951*l.*, and the expenditure to 8,818*l.*

The accumulated balance at the end of the year was 6,497*l.*, of which 3,000*l.* continued to be invested in guaranteed colonial securities, and 3,497*l.* remained in the colonial chest and in the custody of the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) T. KERR,
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G. Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

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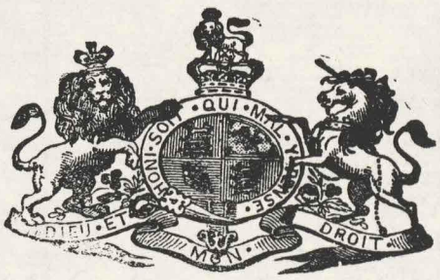
No. 61.

GAMBIA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 41.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.



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NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
11	Straits Settlements - - - -	1887
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887) -	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands - - -	1887
14	Newfoundland - - - - -	1886
15	Grenada - - - - - -	1887
16	Trinidad - - - - - -	,,
17	Bermuda - - - - - -	,,
18	St. Helena - - - - - -	,,
19	Barbados - - - - - -	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887) - - -	,,
21	Bahamas - - - - - -	,,
22	Labuan - - - - - -	,,
23	Malta - - - - - -	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca) - - -	,,
25	St. Vincent - - - - -	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department) -	,,
27	Leeward Islands - - - - -	,,
28	British Guiana - - - - -	,,
29	Western Australia - - - - -	,,
30	Falkland Islands - - - - -	,,
31	Basutoland - - - - -	,,
32	St. Lucia - - - - - -	,,
33	Hong Kong - - - - -	,,
34	Fiji - - - - - -	,,
35	British Honduras - - - - -	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues - -	,,
37	Ceylon - - - - - -	,,
38	British New Guinea - - - -	,,
39	British Guiana - - - - -	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District) - - - -	1888
41	Gambia - - - - - -	1887
42	Sierra Leone - - - - -	,,
43	British Bechuanaland - - - -	,,
44	Victoria - - - - - -	,,
45	New Guinea - - - - -	,,
46	Newfoundland - - - - -	,,
47	New Zealand - - - - -	,,
48	Heligoland - - - - -	1888
49	Gibraltar - - - - - -	,,
50	Bermuda - - - - - -	,,
51	Trinidad - - - - - -	,,
52	Turk's Islands - - - - -	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration) - - -	,,
54	Falklands - - - - - -	,,
55	Bahamas - - - - - -	,,
56	Jamaica - - - - - -	,,
57	Malta - - - - - -	,,
58	St. Helena - - - - -	,,
59	Straits Settlements - - - -	,,
60	Natal - - - - - -	,,

No. 61.

GAMBIA.

Administrator CARTER to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Bathurst,
May 29, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith (in duplicate) the Gambia Blue Book for 1888, and beg to offer the following remarks on the returns furnished by the various departments in the Colony.

Taxes.

As there have been additions to the Customs tariff both in 1887 and 1888 it will be convenient to detail the various articles subject to duty at the present time. It may be mentioned that the provisions of Ordinance No. 2 of 1888 have been extended to the end of the year 1889.

CUSTOMS TARIFF, GAMBIA.

Imports.

Under Ordinance No. 10 of 16th November 1883 :—

	£	s.	d.
Upon all spirits or strong waters, except brandy, not being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength thereof cannot be ascertained by Sykes' Hydrometer, for every imperial gallon of the strength of proof by such hydrometer, so in proportion for every greater or less strength of proof - - - -	0	1	6
Upon all liqueurs, absinthe, cordial or sweetened spirits, or sweetened strong waters, or spirit mixed with sweetened waters so that the degree of strength thereof cannot be ascertained as aforesaid, per imperial gallon - - -	0	2	0
Upon brandies without reference to strength, per imperial gallon - - -	0	3	0

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GAMBIA.

	£	s.	d.
Upon tobacco unmanufactured, per pound -	0	0	3
Upon tobacco manufactured and cigars, per pound - - - -	0	2	0
Upon wines without reference to strength, except claret in bulk, per imperial gallon -	0	1	0
Upon claret in bulk, per imperial gallon -	0	0	9
Upon malt liquors, per imperial gallon -	0	0	9
Upon cola nuts, per pound - - -	0	0	1
Upon sugar, per pound - - -	0	0	1
Upon gunpowder, per pound - -	0	0	1
Upon breechloading guns and rifles - -	1	0	0
Upon other fire-arms - - -	0	4	0
Upon kerosine oil, per imperial gallon -	0	0	3
Upon salt, per ton of two thousand two hundred and forty pounds, net weight -	0	5	0

Under Ordinance No. 12 of 1st December 1887 :—

Oils (other than kerosine) and turps, per gallon - - - - -	0	0	6
Lard, per gallon, or 9 lbs. weight taken as equivalent thereof - - -	0	0	6
Rice, per cwt. of 112 lbs. - - -	0	0	6
Five per cent. *ad valorem* duty on all articles not subject to a specific duty.			
Export duty on ground nuts, per ton -	0	6	8

Additional, from 13th April 1888, Ordinance No. 2, to 31st March 1889 :—

Upon gin not being sweetened or mixed with any articles so that the degree of strength thereof cannot be ascertained by Sykes' Hydrometer, for every imperial gallon of the strength of proof by such hydrometer, so in proportion for every greater or less strength of proof - - - -	0	0	6
Upon rum not being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength thereof cannot be ascertained by Sykes' Hydrometer, for every imperial gallon on the strength of proof by such hydrometer, so in proportion for every greater or less strength of proof - - -	0	0	3
Tobacco, per lb. - - -	0	0	1
Claret in bulk, per gallon - - -	0	0	3
Cola nuts, per lb. - - - -	0	0	0¼
Salt, per ton - - - -	0	2	6

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The estimated revenue amounted to 21,045*l.* and that actually collected to 20,985*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, inclusive of arrears.

There were increases under the following heads :—

Head of Estimate.	Amount Estimated.	Amount Collected.	Increase.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Reimbursements in aid - - -	110 0 0	184 6 2	74 6 2
Postal revenue - - - -	530 0 0	599 5 7	69 5 7
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	200 0 0	249 8 10	49 8 10
Special receipts - - - -	—	2 9 5	2 9 5
Interest - - - - -	80 0 0	97 5 10	17 5 10
Fees of office - - - -	110 0 0	191 5 1	81 5 1
Total - - -	1,030 0 0	1,324 0 11	294 0 11

making a total of 294*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

On the other hand, there were decreases to the amount of 353*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, as follows :—

Head of Estimate.	Amount Estimated.	Amount Collected.	Decrease.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Customs - - - - -	17,365 0 0	17,227 16 9	137 3 3
Excise - - - - -	500 0 0	478 16 9	21 3 3
Licenses - - - - -	600 0 0	558 0 0	42 0 0
Rents, exclusive of land - - -	788 0 0	707 2 7	80 17 5
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - - -	252 0 0	214 17 8	37 2 4
Land revenue - - - -	490 0 0	474 7 6	15 12 6
Auction duty - - - -	20 0 0	0 12 3	19 7 9
Total - - -	20,015 0 0	19,661 13 6	353 6 6

It will be observed, therefore, that the anticipated revenue has been very fairly realised.

The Customs collections showed increases to the amount of 926*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, and decreases to the amount of 1,063*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*

The principal increases were derived from the following items :—

	£ *s.* *d.*
Tobacco - - - -	485 6 10
Pilotage - - - -	162 9 0
Spirits - - - -	80 17 1
Cola nuts - - - -	57 15 2

GAMBIA.

And the principal decreases fell under :—

	£	s.	d.
Oil, &c. - - - -	364	6	7
Salt - - - -	182	16	0
Warehouse rent - - -	116	5	2
Ground nuts - - -	114	5	5
Rice - - - -	95	14	9
Sugar - - - -	88	1	7
Wine - - - -	83	17	0

The other items do not call for special remark.

The under-mentioned table exhibits a comparison between the revenues for 1887 and 1888, under the various heads of estimates, inclusive of arrears.

Comparative Statement of Revenue for 1887 *and* 1888.

Heads of Service.	1887.			1888.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs - - - - -	9,099	17	2	17,227	16	9
Excise - - - - -	—			451	19	5
Do. Arrears - - - -	—			26	17	4
Licenses - - - - -	596	0	0	558	0	0
Rents, exclusive of land - - -	799	7	8	688	13	9
Do. Arrears - - - -	12	11	5	18	8	10
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - - -	180	18	11	205	11	4
Do. Arrears - - - -	0	1	6	9	6	4
Land revenue - - - -	467	18	9	474	7	6
Do. Arrears - - - -	2	4	0	—		
Reimbursements in aid - - -	132	9	3	169	3	7
Do. Arrears - - - -	—			15	2	7
Postal revenue - - - -	519	2	8	599	5	7
Special receipts - - - -	15	13	11	2	9	5
Fees of office - - - -	93	5	9	186	4	10
Do. Arrears - - - -	—			5	0	3
Auction duty - - - -	13	3	0	0	12	3
Interest - - - - -	501	7	0	97	5	10
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	942	19	1	249	8	10
Total - - -	13,377	0	1	20,985	14	5

It will be observed that the revenue under the head of "Customs" for the year 1888 shows the marked advance of 8,127*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* over that for the previous year. This is partly owing to an increase in the tariff under Ordinance No. 12 of 1st December 1887, and Ordinance No. 2 of 13th April 1888, and partly to a revival of the ground nut industry; while the export of this article in 1887 only amounted to 2,986 tons, in 1888 it had reached the total of 9,744 tons.

The general revenue, however, only shows an advance of 7,608*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, principally owing to the acquisition of 942*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.* under the head of "miscellaneous receipts" in 1887, as against 249*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* in 1888, and the falling off of the receipts under

"interest" from 501*l.* 7*s.* in 1887 to 97*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* in 1888. The collections under the head of "miscellaneous receipts" are largely influenced by the capacity of the Government to procure Bills of Exchange, upon which a premium is realised of 3⅛ per cent. The unfortunate necessity of having to dispose of invested funds in 1887, on which a profit of 789*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* was made, is responsible for the unusually large collection under this head, whilst the receipts under "interest" in 1888 were reduced in a corresponding degree.

The estimated expenditure was calculated at 20,971*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*, whilst the actual disbursements amounted to 21,358*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*, showing an excess expenditure of 387*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* The principal excesses appeared under the heads of "education," "Aborigines," "transport," and "works and buildings," and do not call for special comment.

The following table gives a comparison between the expenditures of the years 1887 and 1888, and shows a saving of 2,561*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* in favour of the latter year. This result is owing principally to economies in salaries and absences of officers on half pay, less expenditure for transport, and the abolition of the charge under "conveyance of mails," 1,210*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* (inclusive of arrears for previous year) having been paid in 1887.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for 1887 *and* 1888.

Heads of Service.	1887.			1888.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Salaries, fixed establishments	10,338	17	1	9,618	15	0
Do. Arrears	703	14	8	1,168	3	3
Do. provisional	1,468	3	9	1,182	19	4
Do. Arrears	47	11	7	305	11	9
Allowances	399	3	11	478	14	11
Do. Arrears	41	11	9	35	3	11
Contingencies	101	17	11	103	16	9
Do. Arrears	8	17	9	12	2	9
Pensions, retired allowances, &c.	991	5	0	1,086	1	5
Do. Arrears	301	11	3	311	0	9
Revenue services, exclusive of establishments	266	18	6	315	17	4
Do. Arrears	3	0	0	18	6	4
Administration of justice, exclusive of establishments	161	10	0	111	6	2
Do. Arrears	—			15	12	9
Education, exclusive of establishments	—			216	11	4
Do. Arrears	177	12	1	191	15	6
Charitable allowances	171	3	3	81	19	6
Do. Arrears	—			0	6	0
Ecclesiastical, exclusive of establishments	3	6	8	19	9	3
Do. Arrears	—			1	13	4
Hospitals, exclusive of establishments	341	3	11	439	18	3
Do. Arrears	10	2	9	22	12	5
Police and gaols, exclusive of establishments	644	19	8	469	3	1
Do. Arrears	22	0	9	52	8	8
Rent	7	1	5	4	16	0
Do. Arrears	1	2	2	0	8	0
Transport	1,341	9	11	423	14	0
Do. Arrears	50	13	0	442	10	7
Conveyance of mails	110	9	6	0	1	0
Do. Arrears	1,100	0	0	—		

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Heads of Service.	1887.			1888.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Works and buildings - - -	1,648	7	6	1,246	14	5
Do. Arrears - - - -	—			5	14	8
Roads, streets, and bridges - - -	525	16	4	323	12	5
Do. Arrears - - - -	1	13	0	4	3	0
Miscellaneous services - - -	1,161	14	7	1,175	19	1
Do. Arrears - - - -	168	10	0	43	13	0
Aborigines - - - - -	557	14	6	480	8	4
Do. Arrears - - - -	108	15	8	177	7	6
Drawbacks, &c. - - - -	290	18	11	140	10	7
Treasury and post office, exclusive of establishments - - - - -	123	7	11	57	14	8
Do. Arrears - - - -	18	1	11	14	2	10
Special services - - - -	—			395	12	3
Do. Arrears - - - -	500	0	0	161	19	9
Total - - -	23,920	8	7	21,358	11	10

The statement of assets and liabilities shows a balance credit of 217*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* which, taking into account the financial condition of the Colony at the end of 1887, may be considered a satisfactory state of affairs, and I may add that there is every prospect of the improvement being maintained.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt, and the Colony has invested funds to the amount of 2,500*l.*

Military Expenditure.

Formerly a detachment of troops was stationed at Bathurst, but it has been withdrawn since 1870. The Colony now relies upon a local police force numbering about 110 non-commissioned officers and men, whose annual cost may be stated at 4,700*l.* A portion of this force is stationed at McCarthy's Island, and there are likewise stations in British Combo, and at various towns along the Ceded Mile, the numbers actually available for Bathurst being thus reduced to about 70 men.

The police are now furnished with Martini-Henry rifles, but the armament otherwise is defective.

Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1873, provision is made for the establishment of a Volunteer Force, but up to the present no steps have been taken in this direction, probably from the recognized difficulty of obtaining proper material to man the force. During the dry season, when their services would be in requisition, most of the class from whom the officers and men would be recruited would be unable, from the nature of their business, to pay proper attention to drill. It is feared, therefore, that no force raised under the local circumstances of the Gambia would be likely to meet the desired end.

Public Works.

The expenditure on public works was confined to absolutely necessary repairs, and in consequence of the state of the revenue was reduced to the lowest possible figure. The amount estimated (inclusive of roads, streets, and bridges) was placed at 1,647*l.* 9*s.*, and the expenditure totalled 1,570*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1 of 1888.—"An Ordinance to provide for the preservation " of copies of books printed in the Settlement on the River " Gambia and for the registration of such books."

Passed 11th April 1888.

No. 2 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to impose additional Customs Duties."

Passed 13th April 1888.

No. 3 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to provide for the due collec- " tion of the Palm Wine Duty."

Passed 13th April 1888.

No. 4 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to provide for the service of " the Settlement on the River Gambia for the year 1888."

Passed 2nd May 1888.

No. 5 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to make better provision for " the administration of Justice in the Settlement on the River " Gambia."

Passed 2nd May 1888.

No. 6 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to provide for a special allow- " ance in lieu of travelling allowance to the Bishop of Sierra Leone, " in his capacity as Bishop of the Settlement on the River Gambia."

Passed 9th July 1888.

No. 7 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to provide for the conveyance " to their intended destinations of shipwrecked passengers where " the voyage on which the shipwreck took place is of shorter " distance and duration than pertains to Colonial voyages by the " Acts of the Imperial Parliament known as 'The Passengers Act, " 1855,' and 'The Passengers Act, Amendment Act, 1863."

No. 8 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to legalise certain payments " made in the year 1887 beyond the expenditure authorised by " law."

Passed 16th August 1888.

No. 9 of 1888.—" An Ordinance for conferring on a certain " company called 'Compagnie Française de l'Afrique occidentale'

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" the capacity to hold real property in the Settlement on the River " Gambia."

Passed 13th December 1888.

No. 10 of 1888.—" An Ordinance to authorise the reception " into, and detention in this Settlement, of certain prisoners about " to be deported from Sierra Leone."

Passed 21st December 1888.

No. 11 of 1888.—" The Merchandise Marks Ordinance 1888."

Passed 21st December 1888.

Legislative Council.

Owing to a change in the constitution of the Settlement, and its erection into a separate Colony, the old Legislative Council, consisting of the following members, ceased to exist :—

The Administrator, President,
The Treasurer,
The Collector of Customs,
The Chief Magistrate,
} Ex-officio.

J. Topp, Esq.
J. D. Richards, Esq.
S. J. Forster, Esq.
H. H. Lee, Esq.
} Unofficial.

In consequence of the separation of Gambia from Sierra Leone, which took place on the 22nd December 1888, it became necessary to provide for an Executive as well as a Legislative Council, and the following gentlemen were appointed :—

Executive Council.

The Administrator, President,
The Treasurer,
The Chief Magistrate,
The Collector of Customs.

And the following received appointments as Legislative Councillors :—

The Administrator, President,
The Treasurer,
The Chief Magistrate,
The Collector of Customs,
} Ex-officio.

S. J. Forster, Esq.
H. C. Goddard, Esq.
} Unofficial.

It will be observed, therefore, that a new appointment was made in the person of Mr. Goddard, and that Mr. Topp, Mr. Richards, and Mr. Lee, ceased to be unofficial members.

Civil Establishment.

The following official changes took place during the year 1888:—

From the 1st January to the 4th June Mr. T. Risely Griffith, the Colonial Secretary and Treasurer of Sierra Leone, administered the Government, in the absence of Administrator Hay, and Mr. Carter, the Treasurer, on leave of absence.

On the return of Mr. Carter to Bathurst Mr. Griffith proceeded to England, and the former officer assumed the administration of the Government.

Administrator Hay remained in England until, on the death of Sir S. Rowe on the 24th August, he received the appointment of Governor of Sierra Leone, and Mr. Carter was subsequently confirmed as Administrator of the Gambia, the salary of the office having been reduced from 1,300*l.* per annum to 800*l.* per annum, and an allowance of 25*l.* per month whilst actually performing the duties of Administrator.

The vacant office of Treasurer and Postmaster was abolished and two separate offices constituted; Mr. C. B. Mitford, formerly Assistant Colonial Secretary and Treasurer at Sierra Leone, receiving the appointment of Treasurer at a salary of 400*l.* per annum and a duty allowance of 5*l.* per month, and Mr. J. Topp the appointment of Postmaster at a salary of 100*l.* per annum.

The vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Blackburn, the Collector of Customs, was filled by the appointment of Mr. H. H. Lee, at a salary of 300*l.* per annum, overtime and Sunday fees, and a duty allowance of 5*l.* per month.

Pensions.

There was no change in the pension list for 1888. The charge on the Colony for this service amounts to 1,388*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* per annum.

POPULATION.

According to the census for 1881 the population of the various Settlements on the Gambia was returned at 14,150, and it has probably remained much about the same. Owing to the high rate of infant mortality and the carelessness of the negro in regard to sanitary precautions generally, there is no doubt that the population is not increasing to any great extent, though the Registrar in his interesting report, appended, points out that the returns do not by any means afford an accurate view of the case. There is great difficulty in impressing upon natives the importance of supplying correct information in regard to census statistics, and although the Registration Ordinance of 1886 is a common informer's Ordinance, and provides for a moiety of any fine imposed to be paid to the person prosecuting to conviction, it would appear that in no single case has advantage been taken of it. The following remarks have been supplied by the Registrar.

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Births.

The total number of births registered in the Colony during the year under review was 380, being 87 in excess of the births registered in the preceding year; of these, 225 were registered at Bathurst, 37 at British Combo, 77 on the Ceded Mile districts, including Albreda, and 41 at McCarthy's Island. Sexually divided there were 202 males born and 178 females, of whom 364 were illegitimate. I may be permitted to observe that a large majority of the children thus irregularly born were the offspring of Mahomedan parents, who are wedded together in conformity with the rites and tenets of that faith.

It is obvious that the statistics of births cannot be said to be quite accurate or reliable, although the figures showed an improvement on the returns of previous years. Taking Bathurst, for example, where it was only natural to expect that the returns would be full and complete, the register showed that only 225 births were registered, or 3·6 per cent. of the entire population, computing on the basis of the figures of the last decennial census.

In 1885 the registry returns showed an excess of deaths over births of 280; in 1886 of 346; in 1887 of 578; and in 1888 of 204. Assuming the relative proportion of deaths to births to be correct, the obvious inference would be that the population is actually dying off at a rate by which it will be extinct in a short time; but it is manifest that the contrary is the fact, and I am therefore bound to assume that the returns of births were not as full and reliable as might be desired, and that a great many births occurring in the Colony, more especially among the Aboriginal population, were not registered. Section 8 of the Registration Ordinance of 1886 provides that a moiety of all penalties and forfeitures recovered under the Registration Ordinances after a summary conviction shall be paid to the person prosecuting to conviction; but as far as I know there has not been a single instance in which information has been given to the police or the responsible authorities against any parties contravening the provisions of the Ordinances. It is a well-known fact that the Joloff and other cognate tribes, which form the great bulk of the population, are averse to litigation, and no pecuniary inducement would make them assume the rôle of a common informer.

Deaths.

The deaths registered in the Colony during the same period, reckoning still-births, numbered 584, as against 871 in the preceding year. Of this number Bathurst contributed 325, British Combo 87, the Ceded Mile districts 131, and McCarthy's Island 41. In January there were 46 deaths, in February 70, in March 39, in April 22, in May 40, in June 35, in July 55, in August 60, in September 66, in October 66, in November 42, and in December 43. The male deaths numbered 353, and female deaths 231, infant mortality forming a considerable proportion. The decrease

in the death rate during 1888 as compared with the preceding year was due to the absence of any dangerous epidemic, small-pox, which has always proved a fruitful source of mortality among the native population, having assumed a mild endemic character.

The European deaths numbered 5, mulatto deaths 7, and native deaths 572.

The registered causes of death were as follows:—Abscess, 3; acute inflammation of the brain, 3; acute splenitis 1; anasarca, 2; asthma, 3; biliary cirrhosis of liver and spleen, 1; bowel complaints, 22; Bright's disease of the kidneys, 1; bronchitis, 2; cachexia, 4; carcinoma of pelvic organ, 1; cerebral hœmorrhage, 1; chest affections, 57; childbirth, 1; cancer on the breast, 3; convulsions, 39; consumption, 12; debility, 9; diarrhœa, 10; diseases of the heart and lungs, 4; dropsy, 32; drowning, 2; dysentery, 13; effusion of serum into the pericardium, 1; exhaustion, 6; fevers, 74; lethargus, 2; leprosy, 6; liver complaints, 2; lumbago, 2; mumps, 1; nephritis, 1; palsy, 3; phthisis, 5; pneumonia, 2; rheumatism, 1; sarcoma of the cerebrum, 1; senile decay, 15; small-pox, 44; sore throat, 1; softening of the brain, 1; starvation, 1; still-births, 30; sunstroke, 1; ulcers, 21; venereal diseases, 4; wounds, 3; unascertained, 131.

The causes of European deaths were nephritis, 1; debility, 1; drowning, 1; sunstroke, 1; softening of the brain, 1.

The number of deaths medically certified to was 31, of which 17 were by Colonial Hospital returns, and 14 by the coroner's inquisitions.

It being indispensably necessary previous to the interment of a corpse to give notice thereof, and obtain a burial permit, there is no room for evading the provisions of the law as regards the registration of deaths, and the returns under this head may therefore be implicitly relied on.

The rank and station of the persons who died during the year were as follows:— alien African children, 3; Arabic writer, 1; boatmen, 2; blacksmiths, 5; butchers, 2; carpenters, 5; clerks, 3; convict prisoners, 5; cooks, 3; farmers, 156; fireman, 1; ferryman, 1; fishermen, 4; groom, 1; infants, 207; kroomen, 3; labourers, 18; lime burner, 1; mason, 1; photographer, 1; paupers, 7; pensioners, 3; police constables, 3; seamen, 18; school children, 10; seamstresses, 5; shipwrights, 4; tailors, 3; traders, 24; weavers, 3; washerwomen, 11; unascertained, or unreliable, 70.

Marriages.

The number of marriages solemnized in the Colony during the same period was eight, seven being in the Wesleyan chapels and one in the Roman Catholic church.

Aliens.

The number of registered aliens on the register on the 31st December 1888 was 551. During that year 21 alien African

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children were registered, of whom 12 were males and nine females Divided according to their nationalities eight were Jolahs, six Mandingoes, two Joloffs, three Bambarras, one Seriah, and one Sherbro; three aliens died during the year, 24 obtained their discharge, and two escaped. By the permission of the Administrator 39 were removed temporarily from the Colony, of whom 23 have returned and 16 are still absent.

Savings Banks, Friendly Societies, &c.

The Savings Bank established in 1884 continues steadily to improve in its number of depositors. The amounts in hand at the close of the last three years have been as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1886 - - - -	108	7	0
1887 - - - -	493	3	0
1888 - - - -	516	12	3

There are numerous friendly societies in the Colony which mostly take the form of burial clubs; they are regulated by an Ordinance passed in 1865.

Education.

The inspection for 1887-88 has not yet been made, so that I am not in a position to make any comparison between the present and previous year in regard to progress or otherwise.

In the continued absence of any local effort in the direction of industrial training, I think the Government should take the initiative in this most important question, and assist in the cost of giving a practical training to certain selected youths in the various handicrafts so essential to the well-being of every community. I have more than once reported that there is not in the Gambia a single master carpenter, mason, blacksmith, or shoemaker, and the rising generation who take to these trades naturally all fall into the errors of those whom they follow. I propose, therefore, as an experiment that the Government should contribute one half towards the cost of apprenticing in England two youths, to begin with, to the trades of carpenter and mason respectively, the parents or relatives contributing the other half. I do not know what the cost of such apprenticeship would be, but it should not be very great, and it may be possible under the circumstances to obtain the co-operation of the Admiralty by their permitting the youths to be trained at one of the dockyards.

Churches, &c.

The Wesleyans, so far as numbers are concerned, are the most influential religious body in the Gambia. There are six churches belonging to this denomination, while the Episcopalians and Roman Catholics have one each. The number of worshippers in the Christian churches may be stated at 2,000.

There is also one Mohammedan church having accommodation for 400 persons, but I understand that the average attendance is about 200 men and 25 women. At the last census (1881) the creeds of the population were returned as follows :—

Mohammedans - - - -	5,300
Pagans - - - - -	5,025
Christians - - - -	3,825
Total - - - -	14,150

Climate, Meteorology, &c.

In my Blue Book Report for 1885 I gave some details in regard to the climate of the Gambia, which I think removed some misconceptions as to the temperature and other meteorologic conditions of this region. As however the Blue Book Reports were at that time bound up in series, and were not so readily accessible as under the present system of printing each report separately, I propose, at the suggestion of a gentleman in the Colonial Office, who is much interested in West African affairs, to re-insert the information embodied in the previous report, recasting where necessary to suit the present occasion.

It would appear from early accounts in the Colonial Office List that a register of the thermometer kept at the Military Hospital at Bathurst in 1821 showed "that in January of that year the "maximum was 80° and the minimum 75°, whilst in September "they were respectively 89 and 85°." Governor McDonnell on the other hand reported in 1850 "that for several months in the "year the thermometer in the morning at Bathurst varies from "58° to 64°, and that for the greater portion of the year refreshing "land and sea breezes blow over the town."

Coming to more recent years, I find in a book entitled "Physical "and Medical Climate and Meteorology of the West Coast of Africa," by Doctor Horton, that he gives the following results of his readings of the maximum and minimum thermometers for the months indicated :—

	Maximum Thermometer, St. Mary's.	Minimum Thermometer, St. Mary's.
January - - - - -	99·5	59
February - - - - -	101	62
March - - - - -	108	60
April - - - - -	108	60
May - - - - - -	99	60
June - - - - -	99	60
July - - - - -	99	60
August - - - - -	99	60
September - - - - -	106	60

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So far as my investigations have gone I am quite unable to endorse anything approaching to these readings. Since my notes were made in 1885, a screen has been fitted up on the plan advocated by the Meteorological Office, and records carefully made by Mr. Burt of the West African Telegraph Company, and I have therefore had the opportunity of comparing the differences of readings caused by records made inside a house and those made under a proper screen in the open air, and in neither case can I find maximum records of 108°. On one day in March 1888 I find a record in Mr. Burt's readings of 105°, and in April there is one record of 100°·5, these temperatures are, however, quite exceptional and in the same month I find as low a maximum as 78° ; it is clear therefore that Doctor Horton's maxima cannot under any circumstances be mean records for the period specified, and probably they were exceptional readings made under an imperfect screen.

In regard to the minimum readings, it will be observed that Doctor Horton gives 60° during seven months of the year. In my own experience I have only observed this reading of the thermometer on one occasion, viz., the 16th January 1886, when a strong harmattan from the N.E. was blowing. This record was made under the verandah at Government House at 7 a.m., and possibly under an exposed screen the temperature would have been somewhat lower.

The minima recorded by Mr. Burt have been exceptionally low, and I cannot help thinking that the minimum thermometer must have been defective ; it is well known that these instruments readily get out of order. The highest minimum reading in January 1888, according to Mr. Burt, occurred on the 16th, and registered 48·9, and the lowest on the 22nd, registering 44°. The mean minimum for the month was only 48°·2.

The thermometer with which I made my records in 1885 was placed against a wall in my bedroom at the Military Hospital, in a thorough draught between two doors, and in that position the maximum temperature would doubtless be lower than under an exposed screen, while the minimum temperature would not be affected in a corresponding degree. I am inclined to think that 60° is the lowest genuine reading of the thermometer in Bathurst, and that only on very rare occasions.

In my experience the highest records occur at about 3 p.m., and the lowest shortly after sunrise, and I have frequently remarked that the mercury drops about a degree at this time.

Barometrical readings are of little value from a scientific point of view in the Gambia.

There is the same diurnal range between certain hours, which is observable generally within the tropics. The most violent tornado has not the smallest effect on the working of the instrument, and the range and pressure seem to vary very little either in the rainy or the dry season. In 1885 I took the dates of the 29th April, the height of the dry season, and the 29th August

the height of the rainy season, and gave the barometrical records, which were as follows:—

29th April, 10 a.m., 29·95; 4 p.m., 29·80.
29th August, 10 a.m., 29·95; 4 p.m., 29·87.

It will be observed that in this instance the fall between 10 and 4 is greater in the dry than in the rainy season, but this result is not sufficiently constant to establish any rule in the matter.

In 1886 I note the records to be—

29th April, 10 a.m., 29·95; 4 p.m., 29·85.
29th August, 10 a.m., 30·00; 4 p.m., 29·90.

In each case showing a fall of one-tenth, which may be said to be the normal depression between the hours named. I may mention as a curious circumstance that, on the 9th January 1886, the barometer stood at 29·95 without movement between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. In my remarks on the weather I observe, "Heavy rain "from seaward 8.30 a.m. Thermometer 9 a.m. 66° (a drop of 2° "since 7 a.m.) wind Northerly fresh." This is the only instance in the whole of my records of a stationary barometer between the hours named. It should be stated that rain in January is a most unusual phenomenon, and nothing of the kind has occurred again during my seven years' residence in the Colony.

It would appear from this experience that there are isolated circumstances which affect the instrument even in this region, which does not fall within the western cyclonic area. In the West Indies, where I paid some attention to barometrical observations, the action of the instrument is precisely similar to that which occurs in West Africa, with the exception that infallible warning of a hurricane is always given by the suspension of the rule of alternate increase and decrease of pressure every six hours. To be precise, the barometer is at its maximum at 10 a.m., then steadily goes down until 4 p.m., usually falling about one-tenth of an inch during the six hours, after which there is a corresponding rise until 10 p.m.; it falls and rises in the same manner during the night and early morning, so that the maximum, as before observed, is reached at 10 a.m.

In a hurricane the disturbance of normal conditions is so great that the mercury falls from 1·5 inches to 2·5 inches according to whether the locality of observation is near to, or far from, the central path of the storm.

I regret, owing to my absence from Bathurst during the first half of the year, that I am unable to give a table of mean temperatures for 1888, but there is little variation in the seasons in this respect, though marked differences occur in the rainfall. My readings for 1885 will, however, be useful to those seeking for information on this head, and I accordingly append them. At the time these records were made the exigencies of my office prevented my taking readings at 3 p.m. In this case the maximum temperature would have been in excess of that registered, but

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except during the months when the Harmattan (N.E. to E.S.E.) wind blows, there is but little rise in the thermometer after noon.

Months, 1885.	Mean Temperature.	
	7 a.m.	Noon.
January	68·5	73·7
February	72·	78·
March	68·3	75·
April	70·5	76·5
May	70·	74·
June	77·	80·
July	80·	82·5
August	78·	80·5
September	76·5	78·7
October	79·8	82·6
November	76·	79·5
December	72·2	76·

The Harmattan wind usually sets in early in December, and is eagerly looked for after the airless, oppressive weather in October and November. It is an exceedingly dry wind, and though cool and bracing in the early morning, becomes hot under the influence of the sun, as it slackens in the middle of day. The Harmattan is an intermittent wind blowing for a few days, and being then succeeded by the refreshing sea breeze, which in its turn gives way to the Harmattan. This interchange usually lasts up to the middle of April, the month of February being the time when the Harmattan is most prevalent. Its effect may be seen on the mean temperature for this month, which ranges higher than that of the preceding or three following months.

The months of July and October are decidedly the most unhealthy and unpleasant months in Bathurst. In July the sea breeze has stopped blowing, the sun is very hot, and stifling, airless days may be expected preparatory to the commencement of the rains, which are generally ushered in by dry tornadoes, followed by these storms, accompanied by heavy rain.

The middle of June is about the time when rain may be first expected, but the wet season does not become thoroughly established until a month later, the latter part of July and the whole of August and September being conspicuous for more or less continuous rain. The rainfall varies from 40 to 80 inches.

As a rule, I think it may be considered that a heavy rainy season means a healthy season, more especially if tornadoes are frequent with their usual accompaniment of thunder and lightning. No one who has resided in Western Africa can fail to appreciate the pleasant sensations experienced after one of these beneficent storms has passed over; a weight seems lifted from one's being, the air becomes unusually clear and pure, and the temperature is considerably lowered. The wind seldom blows with sufficient force to do any material damage during the progress of a tornado, and the most violent storms usually expend their force in an hour or two.

The Island of St. Mary has the advantage (in one sense) of possessing a light, sandy soil, and consequently the heaviest rain soon percolates through and does not stagnate on the flat surface of the Island. It is, of course, very difficult to effect any satisfactory system of drainage under such circumstances, though attempts have been made in this direction.

Taken as a whole, the climate of the Gambia is decidedly superior to that of any other British Settlement in West Africa, though at certain seasons intermittent and remittent fevers are very prevalent, few Europeans escaping an attack of one or other of these forms between the months of July and October. Natives form no exception to this rule, though with them the disease is rarely fatal. The point which has always struck me about the Gambia is the *dryness* of the climate as compared with Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast. Even during the rainy season one's boots only in a minor degree get coated with the damp fungoid deposit which is so noticeable in other places. From December to June there are periods of phenomenal dryness, more especially during the occurrence of the Harmattan wind, but the sea breeze which blows from the N. and N.W. and is the prevailing wind during these months is not charged with moisture to the same extent as similar winds in Sierra Leone and on the Gold Coast.

The height of the thermometer in the Gambia or, indeed, West Africa generally, must not be taken as a guide to one's sensations of heat; for although the thermometer rarely exceeds 90° indoors, yet there are times at Bathurst when to judge by one's feelings 10° might well be added to the 90°. This is especially the case during the month of October, which is exceedingly trying to Europeans. The rains have ceased and the process of drying up is going on, or in other words, Nature's distillery for malaria is in active operation. There is rarely a breeze of any kind, or if at all a land wind charged with poison from miles of fœtid swamp. Such as it is, however, it is welcomed, for during the oppressively still days and nights there seems to be an absence of air for breathing purposes. This, however, is the dark side of the picture, and, fortunately, the state of things described is only of short duration. Taking all things into consideration, climatically speaking, the conditions of life are more bearable in the Gambia than in any other part of West Africa. This opinion, I may add, is based upon nearly 14 years experience gained in Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, and the Gambia.

GAMBIA.

I append readings of the barometer and thermometer from the date of my arrival at Bathurst (1st June 1888) to the end of the year, and in this case, have taken the thermometrical readings at 7 a.m., 2 p.m., and 9 p.m.

Date.	Barometer.		Thermometer.			Rain-fall.	Remarks.
	10 a.m.	4 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.		
1888.							
June							
1 (Friday)	30·03	29·93	75	79	76	—	Landed from "Calabar" 8.30 p.m., strong breeze, N.E.
2	30·04	29·93	76	80	77	—	Pleasant weather with N.E. breeze.
3 (S.)	30·05	29·94	76	80	76	—	Do. do.
4	30·04	29·93	77	80	78	—	Do. do.
5	30·05	29·95	76	29	77	—	Do. do.
6	30·05	29·96	75	78	76	—	Cloudy; pleasant breeze; slight rain 9 a.m.
7	30·11	30·02	75	80	81	—	Warmer night and less breeze in morning and all day; afternoon cloudy.
8	30·09	30·01	75	85	79	—	Past night warm and airless; mosquitoes active; morning cloudy; hot all day.
9	30·16	30·06	76	87	79	—	Fresh easterly wind early morning.
10 (S.)	30·15	30·05	75	85	79	—	Cooler night with fresh breeze, N.E.; morning cloudy, breeze still blowing.
11	30·14	30·04	76	86	79	—	Much the same; north-easterly breeze fresh.
12	30·07	29·98	75	81	78	—	Breeze cooler and strong from N.; cloudy and threatening for rain.
13	30·12	30·03	76	82	77	—	Calm morning; N.E. breeze sprung up at 10 a.m.; hazy hot sun; fresh breeze all night.
14	30·13	30·06	76	81	77	—	Morning calm, light; air from E.; strong breeze from N. all afternoon.
15	30·18	30·08	76	82	78	—	Much the same.
16	30·13	30·05	76	82	77	—	Pleasant day with strong northerly wind.
17 (S.)	30·13	30·04	76	81	78	—	Do. do.
18	30·14	30·05	76	82	79	—	Calmer; wind easterly and warmer; cloudy, and threatening for rain.
19	30·17	30·08	77	83	80	—	Past night calm; hot morning with slight breeze, N.E.; tornado threatened in evening.
20	30·13	30·04	78	81	80	0·03	11.30 a.m., smart shower; wind shifted to S.; cloudy and threatening; some thunder.
21	30·14	30·03	78	85	81	—	Strong N.E. breeze all night, same morning hot all day.
22	30·10	30·07	80	83	80	—	Breeze from N.E., and somewhat cooler.
23	30·15	30·05	78	84	77	0·45	Pleasant day; 7.30 p.m. tornado with heavy rain.
24 (S.)	30·15	30·05	78	83	76	—	Strong breeze from N.E. greater part of day and continued all night.
25	30·13	30·02	76	85	78	—	Hotter and breeze less.
26	30·13	30·03	78	85	81	0·06	Tornado at 4 a.m.
27	30·18	30·07	79	84	80	0·03	Bright and hot, not much breeze.
28	30·22	30·15	80	85	82	—	Much the same; dry tornado 9 p.m.; barometer to 9 p.m., 30·27.
29	30·22	30·17	81	85	80	0·01	Not much breeze; bright.
30	30·23	30·15	78	84	79	—	Cooler; fresh breeze from N.
July							
1 (S.)	30·18	30·12	78	82	80	0·23	Calm at 5 a.m.; 6.30 a.m. fresh easterly breeze sprung up; cloudy and unsettled 8 a.m. heavy tornado.
2	30·20	30·13	78	84	80	0·02	Slight rain, early morning.
3	30·14	30·05	79	83	80	—	Breeze from N.N.W.; cloudy and cooler.
4	30·17	30·14	80	84	80	0·09	Close morning; wind light; slight showers at 6 p.m.
5	30·20	30·05	80	79	80	—	Fresh N. breeze in morning; calm at 10 a.m.; cloudy: heavy tornado.
6	30·17	30·08	78	82	79	—	11.30, blew hard for two hours, but no rain.
7	30·10	30·04	77	80	80	—	Pleasant day; warmer in evening.
8 (S.)	30·19	30·12	80	85	80	—	Past night close; cloudy in morning, and threatening strong breeze all night.
9	30·18	30·13	80	82	79	0·03	Shower at 11 a.m.; strong breeze N.E. all day.
10	30·16	30·10	78	82	79	0·25	Shower during night.
11	30·16	30·10	79	83	80	—	Bright, with fresh breeze; dry.
12	30·15	30·11	77	83	79	—	Cool morning; hazy, pleasant day.
13	30·13	30·07	78	84	79	—	
14	30·15	30·09	78	84	79	—	
15 (S.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	Went to Cape St. Mary. No barometer or thermometer. Fine day.
16	—	—	—	—	—	—	Weather still fine.

Date.	Barometer.		Thermometer.			Rain-fall.	Remarks.
	10 a.m.	4 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.		
July							
17	—	—	—	—	—	1·43	Heavy rain at 5 a.m., and again during day.
18	—	—	—	—	—	0·48	Rain in afternoon.
19	30·12	—	—	82	79	—	Returned 10 a.m.; rain in afternoon.
20	30·15	30·10	79	83	78	0·28	Rain at 5 p.m.; thunder and lightning; very heavy rain at 7 p.m.
21	30·16	—	78	83	82	1·45	Returned to Cape 3 p.m., brought thermometer.
22(S.)	—	—	80	83	82	—	Cloudy morning with fresh breeze; fair all day.
23	—	—	80	82	80	—	Strong sea breeze all night; cloudy morning; drizzle in the evening 8 p.m.; calm, with land wind; mosquitoes and sand flies; full moon.
24	30·05	29·90	79	85	83	—	Cloudy day with variable airs; close; clear to seaward.
25	30·03	29·92	80	82	—	0·35	Rain during night; cloudy morning and threatening to seaward.
26	30·03	29·95	78	29	78	2·41 (to 9 a.m.)	Heavy rain set in at 3 a.m. lasting until 3 p.m.; temperature 10 a.m., 77°.
27	30·10	30·03	78	84	80	0·61	Returned to Bathurst 10 a.m.; fine day.
28	30·07	30·02	79	84	80	0·06	
29(S.)	30·09	30·00	80	84	80		
30	No records.					0·66	Cape St. Mary; showery.
31	30·16	30·08	79	83	80	0·18	Returned early; heavy shower at 11 a.m., and fine in afternoon.
August							
1	30·12	30·04	78	79	80	3·42	Very heavy rain at 6.30, lasting till 8.30; fine after.
2	30·07	30·00	78	86	79	—	Very calm night and morning; atmosphere excessively clear; bright and hot midday and afternoon; very heavy thunder-storm 7 p.m.
3	30·08	30·02	77	77	78	2·17	Rain during past night; dull morning; rain commenced at 7 a.m. and lasted all day.
4	30·10	30·03	77	79	79	0·22	Rain continued up to 12 midnight; fine after till 2 p.m., when rain began again; fine in evening.
5(S.)	30·03	29·94	78	84	83	0·95	Went to Cape; fine day with sea breeze.
6	29·98	29·92	83	85	83	—	Strong breeze all night; fine morning bright.
7	29·98	29·91	82	84	83	—	Fine day; bright and hot; light sea breeze.
8	30·02	29·92	80	83	82	0·16	Do. do. some rain.
9	30·03	29·93	81	83	79	—	Bathurst 7 p.m.; heavy shower from 3 to 5.
10	30·00	29·98	75	80	81	2·68	Heavy rain past night; showers during day; wind S.; hardly any fall in barometer between 10 and 4; heavy rise after.
11	30·18	30·13	77	82	80	0·14	Fine day and pleasant temperature.
12(S.)	30·15	30·06	77	80	81	—	Went to Cape St. Mary 1 p.m.; fine day
13	30·00	29·93	81	84	82	—	Fine, bright day, with sea breeze.
14	30·00	29·92	81	85	83	—	Fine day; Bathurst 6 p.m.; warm, still night.
15	30·10	30·06	82	84	81	—	Fine day; calm night.
16	30·11	30·05	78	83	80	0·70	Tornado at 5 a.m.; heavy rain; fine after 10 a.m.
17	30·12	30·05	81	85	81	—	Fine day; tornado threatened in evening, but passed off.
18	30·12	30·06	80	84	80	—	Fine day up to 8 p.m., heavy shower then.
19(S.)	30·11	30·05	80	85	80	0·57	Fine morning; hot afternoon; heavy rain at 6 p.m., and during night.
20	30·13	30·07	77	82	83	0·28	Fine morning; hot all day; dry tornado at 3.30 p.m.; started for Cape at 5; heavy rain 5.30.
21	30·03	29·92	80	84	82	0·56	Showers in afternoon, fine otherwise.
22	30·05	29·94	82	85	84	—	Fine day; strong sea breeze; 4 p.m.; threatening.
23	30·06	29·95	74	81	80	0·42	6 a.m., thermometer 84°; 6.15, thermometer 73°; heavy tornado from S.E.; much wind, and a deluge of rain; sea blown up into spiral wheels.
24	30·14	30·06	79	83	82	0·14	Bathurst 12.30, fine day; calm.
25	30·15	30·05	80	83	81	—	Much the same.
26(S.)	30·15	30·06	78	82	80	0·03	Do.
27	30·16	30·07	77	80	79	0·32	Tornado at 11.30; blew hard.
28	30·12	30·03	78	83	80	—	Fine day; no rain.
29	30·10	30·00	80	83	80	0·03	Tornado at 4.30 p.m., not much rain.
30	30·07	29·99	78	82	80	—	Cloudy and dull; cooler; rain during night.
31	30·08	29·98	79	86	81	0·31	Calm morning; very hot afternoon.

GAMBIA.

Date.	Barometer.		Thermometer.			Rain-fall.	Remarks.
	10 a.m.	4 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.		
Sept.							
1	30·07	29·99	80	84	77	—	Very heavy rain at 8.30 p.m., and lasting for some time.
2(S.)	30·05	29·90	76	82	80	3·30	Fine morning; rain in afternoon; fine night.
3	30·05	29·90	77	85	80	0·09	Cape St. Mary at 7 p.m.; heavy shower at 3.30.
4	30·05	29·90	79	84	81	0·81	Fine day; shower in the evening.
5	30·03	29·94	81	84	83	0·34	Fine morning; heavy tornado at 5 p.m.
6	30·05	29·95	81	85	81	0·62	Cloudy morning, calm and warm; tornado at 6.30. p.m.; returned to Bathurst evening.
7	30·10	30·00	80	86	80	0·59	Close day, cloudy mostly; tornado 5.30 p.m.
8	30·10	30·00	80	85	80	1·03	Fine day, no rain.
9(S.)	30·11	30·00	80	84	80	—	Fine all day, rain at 9 p.m.
10	30·10	30·00	77	82	79	0·37	Fine day.
11	30·03	29·94	80	86	82	—	Cape St. Mary 6.30 p.m.; slight rain on the way.
12	30·05	29·95	84	87	83	0·12	Strong breeze all past night, but warm.
13	30·04	29·95	83	86	82	—	Shower at 8.30 a.m.; another at 10, blew hard.
14	30·10	29·90	78	85	82	0·15	Fine day.
15	30·10	29·89	80	77	81	—	Fine morning; tornado at 1.30; lowering temperature.
16(S.)	30·11	29·90	81	85	83	—	Fine day; bright; sea breeze.
17	30·05	29·93	82	87	82	—	Fine day, bright.
18	30·04	29·94	82	86	82	—	Do. sharp attack of fever, better in morning; returned to Bathurst.
19	30·05	29·95	82	85	81	—	Fine day; rain during night.
20	30·13	30·08	79	85	81	0·67	Do. do.
21	30·10	29·92	81	84	80	—	Shower at 6 a.m.; "Loanda" arrived from England.
22	30·10	29·93	80	85	81	—	—
23(S.)	30·14	29·92	79	84	80	0·28	Tornado 7.30, lasted an hour.
24	30·15	29·95	80	85	80	0·52	Very heavy tornado 8 a.m.; blew down large tree in square.
25	30·14	29·93	80	82	79	0·40	Tornado at 1.30 p.m.
26	30·13	29·94	78	84	80	—	Fine day; no rain.
27	30·14	29·94	78	85	82	—	Dry tornado 4 a.m.; Cape St. Mary at 6.30 p.m.
28	30·03	29·93	82	86	81	—	—
29	30·02	29·92	83	87	81	—	Returned to Bathurst 6 p.m.
30(S.)	30·15	29·96	82	86	80	—	Fine day.
October							
1	30·14	30·03	77	80	79	1·68	Heavy rain during past night.
2	30·12	30·05	75	77	78	0·16	Heavy rain at intervals during day.
3	30·13	30·04	78	82	83	1·28	Bright morning; sea breeze set in at noon; Cape St. Mary 6.30 p.m.
4	30·12	30·00	83	81	82	—	Tornado 10 a.m.; cool breeze after; cloudy and pleasant.
5	30·05	29·96	83	86	81	0·18	Hot day; Bathurst 3.30 p.m.
6	30·07	29·95	80	79	80	0·71	Heavy rain with strong breeze from S.E. at 8 a.m.; thermometer 9 a.m. 77°; thunder and lightning during past night.
7(S.)	30·08	29·99	79	85	81	0·06	Fine day.
8	—	29·98	80	—	80	—	—
9	—	—	80	—	—	—	—
10	Absent up the river.					—	—
11						—	
12						—	
13						0·44	—
14(S.)						0·55	
15						—	
16	30·13	30·05	78	85	80	0·53	Tornado during night, and heavy rain in afternoon, and violent tornado at 4 p.m.
17	30·12	30·03	74	85	80	1·27	Cool morning; fine day.
18	30·04	29·97	80	85	82	—	Fine day; bright.
19	30·03	29·98	81	86	81	—	Hot airless day.
20	30·01	29·96	80	87	83	—	Very hot day; no breeze.
21(S.)	30·08	29·99	80	86	81	—	Cooler; bright with light breeze from N.E.
22	30·07	29·99	80	84	83	—	Cool breeze during night; hazy all day.
23	30·08	30·02	82	87	81	0·05	Much the same; hot weather.
24	30·08	29·98	81	86	84	—	Do. Cape St. Mary 7 p.m.
25	30·10	29·92	84	87	85	—	Sea breeze, but warm.
26	30·10	29·90	84	88	85	—	Very warm day; hazy; not much breeze.
27	30·11	29·92	84	87	83	—	Much the same; dry tornado at 8 p.m. lowering temperature; "Volta" anchored at mouth of river.
28(S.)	30·09	30·00	84	89	85	—	Calm hot day; hazy; light Harmattan in afternoon.

Date.	Barometer.		Thermometer.			Rain-fall.	Remarks.
	10 a.m.	4 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.		
October							
29	30·07	29·98	84	89	83	—	Hazy morning; Harmattan light; cooler in evening.
30	30·08	29·99	83	89	88	—	Calm, hazy morning; same all day; hot, with heavy surf.
31	30·07	29·98	83	88	87	—	Past night very hot; calm morning; went to Barcottee.
Nov.							
1	30·07	30·00	83	89	85	—	Cloudy morning; misty; sea breeze returned to Bathurst.
2	30·08	29·99	80	89	83	—	Same calm, hot weather.
3	30·07	29·99	79	89	83	—	Do. do.
4(S.)	30·12	29·98	77	85	82	—	Harmattan early morning; fresh; hot afternoon; breeze set in at 8 p.m., lasting all night.
5	30·09	29·99	75	83	80	—	Harmattan stronger in morning; cool night.
6	30·07	30·00	75	84	81	—	Do. do.
7	30·08	30·00	76	85	81	—	Harmattan 7 a.m. fresh; pleasant at night.
8	30·06	29·98	77	86	82	—	Harmattan in morning; wind more to N.
9	30·06	29·97	78	83	80	—	Wind lighter; weather hotter afternoon; night breeze from sea; lowering temperature.
10	30·02	29·97	77	85	80	—	Calm all day; hotter; hazy.
11(S.)	30·03	29·96	78	83	80	—	Light sea breeze all day.
12	30·06	30·00	78	83	79	—	Light sea breeze; cloudy in afternoon.
13	30·07	29·99	79	84	80	—	Dull morning; not much breeze.
14	30·06	29·98	79	85	80	—	Calm hazy weather; warm.
15	30·07	29·99	80	85	80	—	Do. do.
16	30·05	29·96	79	83	79	—	Do. do.
17	30·03	29·95	75	84	80	—	Harmattan morning; calm afternoon.
18(S.)	30·04	29·96	78	84	80	—	Calm again, but fresh in morning.
19	30·08	29·99	77	83	79	—	Still calm; cool night.
20	30·09	29·98	77	85	79	—	Calm all day.
21	30·07	29·99	76	83	79	—	Do. breeze during night from E.
22	30·08	30·00	74	81	79	—	Harmattan morning; cooler day generally.
23	30·07	30·00	74	81	78	—	Much the same.
24	30·07	29·99	71	81	80	—	Cool morning with fresh breeze.
25(S.)	30·07	29·98	71	83	79	—	Less breeze, but cool morning; hotter in afternoon.
26	30·07	30·00	71	79	78	—	Dull morning with fresh breeze from E.
27	30·10	30·00	74	79	78	—	Pleasant day with not much sun.
28	30·10	30·00	71	83	79	—	Cool morning; hot afternoon.
29	30·12	29·92	73	79	78	—	Strong breeze morning, but warm, dull, day.
30	30·13	29·94	71	78	78	—	Cool in morning; pleasant day.
Dec.							
1	30·14	29·95	74	80	79	—	Not so much breeze; cool night.
2(S.)	30·15	29·96	71	78	78	—	Cool day with sea breeze.
3	30·07	29·99	71	78	78	—	Cool morning, wind N.E.; pleasant all day.
4	30·06	29·98	73	78	78	—	Less breeze, but cool day.
5	30·12	29·95	75	78	78	—	Past night still and rather warm; foggy morning; calm.
6	30·14	30·10	72	82	80	—	Cool morning; hot, calm afternoon.
7	30·12	30·05	73	85	77	—	Harmattan early morning; calm afternoon hot.
8	30·10	30·04	72	78	77	—	Light sea breeze; cooler.
9(S.)	30·08	30·02	70	77	76	—	Cool day with fresh sea breeze, lasted all night.
10	30·07	30·02	70	78	76	—	Fresh breeze N.E. morning, continued all day and night.
11	30·06	29·98	70	79	77	—	Fine fresh morning; wind N. strong.
12	30·08	30·02	71	77	76	—	Pleasant day; sea breeze.
13	30·09	30·00	72	78	75	—	Much the same; cloudy.
14	30·10	30·05	71	76	75	—	Do. do.
15.	30·13	30·04	71	76	75	—	Do. do.
16(S.)	30·13	30·05	68	75	73	—	Strong breeze all past night and in morning; very pleasant day.
17	30·12	30·04	67	77	73	—	Much the same.
18	30·16	30·08	68	79	74	—	Not so much breeze and warmer.
19	30·14	30·06	70	80	76	—	Much the same.
20	33·13	30·05	70	79	77	—	Harmattan morning; warm middle of day.
21	30·15	30·06	71	79	77	—	Do. do.
22	30·15	30·07	69	77	75	—	Cool morning; Harmattan sea breeze evening.
23(S.)	30·15	30·06	66	73	73	—	Strong breeze all past night, N.E.; cold morning; very pleasant day.
24	30·15	30·06	65	77	73	—	Cold morning, wind N.E.

GAMBIA.

Date.	Barometer.		Thermometer.			Rain-fall.	Remarks.
	10 a.m.	4 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.		
Dec. 25	30·16	30·07	67	77	73	—	Strong Harmattan morning; lulled towards evening.
26	30·15	30·06	67	76	74	—	Much the same; went to Cape.
27	30·13	30·04	63	76	73	—	Very cold morning; strong Harmattan.
28	30·12	30·04	62	75	74	—	Much the same.
29	30·10	30·02	66	73	71	—	Less breeze; cloudy.
30(S.)	30·08	29·98	67	74	72	—	Strong Harmattan morning.
31	30·07	29·99	66	74	71	—	Do. do.

Gaols, Prisoners, &c.

The following table shows a comparison of the number of committals in 1887 and 1888 respectively:—

Year.	Total Number of Prisoners committed.	For Debt.	For safe Custody or want of Bail.	Penal Punishment.	Daily Average in Prison.	Number of Admissions to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1887 - -	111	8	11	92	36	13	1	4
1888 - -	65	1	4	60	39	24	8	5

Of the 65 prisoners incarcerated, 59 were males and 6 were females.

The estimated earnings of the prisoners by labour, amounted to 410*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*

There was one escape from gaol, and there were five deaths.

Criminal Statistics.

The following table exhibits a comparison between the offences committed in the year 1887, and those committed in the year 1888:—

Year.	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Larceny.	Offences to Property other than Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1887 - - -	318	84	82	19	133
1888 - - -	254	64	51	20	119

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

Year.	Number discharged for want of Prosecution or Evidence.	Number of Cases dismissed on Merits.	Number of Persons summarily convicted.	Number of Persons committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
1887 - -	85	51	140	39
1888 - -	78	52	93	31

Year.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Larceny.	Other Offences to Property.	Offences relating to Social Economy of Gambia.	Offences against Master and Servants Act.	Other Offences.	Total.
1887	19	—	—	—	—	12	54	85
1888	22	—	11	2	—	4	54	93

Punishments in connexion with foregoing.

Year.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of Fine or Surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties or other minor Punishment.	Total.
1887 - - -	85	17	33	3	2	140
1888 - - -	65	14	13	—	1	93

It will be observed from the foregoing that, so far as criminal statistics form any criterion, a marked improvement has taken place in the moral tone of the inhabitants during the past year. The chief magistrate has pointed out in his review of crime for 1888, that this improvement has been steadily progressive since 1883. The number of offences reported yearly from that time to the present has been as follows :—

1883 - - - - -	505
1884 - - - - -	451
1885 - - - - -	440
1886 - - - - -	368
1887 - - - - -	318
1888 - - - - -	254

so that during a period of six years, crime, or the detection of crime, has diminished by one half. I think, however, that the improvement is real and not fictitious, and that the natives are steadily

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learning that their interest lies in the direction of being honest and law-abiding citizens.

Slave-dealing cases are likewise becoming more rare; whereas in 1887 there were nine charges of this nature, in 1888 there were only four, owing no doubt to the more peaceful state of the river.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports for the year amounted to 98,925*l.* as against 74,679*l.* in 1887.

Cotton Goods.—These were imported to the amount of 28,460*l.* as against 12,319*l.* in 1887, showing a marked increase.

Tobacco.—232,132 lbs. were imported as compared with 252,361 lbs. in 1887.

Kola Nuts.—Kola nuts were imported to the extent of 409,735 as against 356,579 in the previous year, showing a healthy increase.

Spirits of all Kinds.—The import of spirits reached 26,096 gallons as compared with 60,756 gallons in 1887, thus showing a decrease of more than one half.

Wines were imported to the extent of 15,421 gallons as against 13,313 gallons in 1887.

Sugar.—92,288 lbs. were imported in 1888, while in the previous year 84,274 lbs. were brought to the Colony.

Salt.—777 tons of salt were imported as against 872 tons in 1887.

Fire-arms.—497 were imported as compared with 881 in 1887.

Gunpowder.—561 barrels were imported as compared with 652 in the previous year.

Rice.—The import of rice reached 1,001 tons as against 870 tons in 1887.

Exports.

The exports for the year amounted to 118,187*l.* as against 86,932*l.* for the previous year.

Ground Nuts.—10,207 tons were exported, valued at 74,877*l.* as against 2,999 tons, valued at 26,001*l.*, in 1887, thus showing a very considerable increase.

Hides.—These were exported to the value of 2,963*l.* as compared with 7,367*l.* in 1887.

Rubber.—48,834 lbs. of this produce have been exported valued at 3,277*l.* as against 12,848*l.* worth in 1887.

Palm Kernels.—162 tons were exported, as compared with 559 tons in 1887.

Wax to the value of 2,606*l.* was exported, as against 5,539*l.* in the previous year.

Shipping.

The under-mentioned notes in regard to the shipping have been supplied by the tide surveyor.

The shipping returns for the year as compared with those for 1887 show a decrease in sailing vessels of 583 tons entered and 92 tons cleared.

The tonnage of the steam vessels entered increased by 38,906 tons and of those cleared by 37,844 tons.

The large increase in the number of steamers entered and cleared is due in a measure to the regular monthly visits of the steamers of the Woermann line from Hamburg, thus affording increased convenience of communication between this Colony and other places on the West Coast.

The number of sailing vessels entered during the year was 83, with an aggregate tonnage of 4,955; their crews amounted to 470.

During the preceding year 106 sailing vessels entered with an aggregate tonnage of 5,538, and crews numbering 677.

The number of sailing vessels cleared amounted to 83, with a tonnage of 4,923 and crews 460, while during the previous year 110 vessels cleared, with a tonnage of 5,015 and crews 671. The number of steam vessels entered was 104 with tonnage amounting to 92,347 and crews 3,348. During 1887 67 steam vessels entered with a tonnage of 53,441 and crews 2,225. The number of steam vessels cleared during the year was 104 with a tonnage of 91,286 and crews numbering 3,312.

The steam vessels cleared in 1887 numbered 67, with a tonnage of 53,442 and crews 2,225.

Of the 83 sailing vessels which entered the nationalities were :—

British	25
French	49
American	5
German	1
Grecian	1
Portuguese	2
	83

Of the 83 sailing vessels which cleared, the nationalities were :—

British	27
French	48
German	1
American	5
Grecian	1
Portuguese	1
	83

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Of the 104 steam vessels which entered the following were the nationalities :—

British - - - - -	56
French - - - - -	35
German - - - - -	13
	104

Of the 104 steam vessels which cleared, the following were the nationalities :—

British - - - - -	55
French - - - - -	36
German - - - - -	13
	104

Hospitals.

The following report has been furnished by the Colonial Surgeon, from which it will be observed that 1888 was a favourable year compared with the previous one as regards the number of deaths, whereas in 1887 there were 38, in 1888 there were only 16. It should be mentioned, however, that in 1887 there were 13 deaths from small-pox.

"There were during the year 1888 147 admissions of both sexes to the hospital as against 215 in 1887; of these 147 cases eight were Europeans suffering from diseases incidental to the climate. Two Europeans died, one from remittent fever and the other from sunstroke; the other six were discharged cured.

"The remaining cases were natives suffering from abscess, anasarca, diseases of the brain, generative organs, digestive organs, nervous system, respiratory organs, urinary organs, and likewise intermittent fever, wounds, ulcers, &c.

"The total deaths in the hospital and bungalow were 16, 14 of whom were natives, suffering from anasarca, diseases of the brain, digestive, respiratory, and urinary organs, ulcers, &c.

"In the Extern Department 5,057 were treated of both sexes; of these 1,995 were new cases, being more than 50 per cent. in excess of 1887.

"The prevalent diseases treated in the Extern Department were ulcers, diarrhœa, wounds, &c.

"Amongst the resident Europeans one death only occurred (a Swiss) from softening of the brain. A French sailor died also from drowning, having fallen overboard from a ship in harbour.

"Amongst the native community malarial fever, hepatic derangements, diarrhœa, &c. prevailed to a great extent, though the deaths were less than in 1887, viz., 325 as against 466 in the previous year.

"The total rainfall was only 39·09 in. as compared with 53·96 in 1887.

"Vaccination was performed successfully by Dr. Rendall, the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, during the latter part of the year."

ETHNOLOGY, DISTRIBUTION OF RACES, &c.

For the reasons stated under the head of "Climate, Meteorology &c.," I propose to repeat the information conveyed in my Blue Book Report for 1885, in reference to this interesting subject, more especially as further experience has enabled me to supplement the notes recorded up to that time. It was gratifying to find that the Archæological Review considered these notes worthy of insertion in one of the numbers of that periodical, notwithstanding that they were reproduced under the title of a "Consular Report." I shall be glad of this opportunity of correcting some printer's errors which inadvertently crept into the spelling of some of the numerals in the Mandingo, Jolof, and Jola languages, both in the Blue Book Report and naturally likewise in the Archæological Review.

The principal tribes associated more or less economically with the Gambia are the following :—

1. Mandingoes.
2. Sereres.
3. Nominkas.
4. Jolas.
5. Jolofs.
6. Salum Salums.
7. Lowbeys.

In addition to these, the trading community come into contact with Foulahs and Turankas or Toocalores in the Upper River.

1. *Mandingoes.*

The headquarters of this extensive and powerful race lie in the mountainous district near the sources of the Niger and the Gambia, extending as far as Kong. From this region, they overran the surrounding country westward to Bambouk and still pushed on, until the banks of the Gambia, as far as the sea, more or less fell under their sway. The history of their advent in the Gambia is thus described by F. Xavier Golberry, a French writer who visited this portion of West Africa in the years 1785–6–7.

"About the commencement of the tenth year of the Hegira" (A.D. 622) "Amari Sonko, a celebrated Mandingo warrior, descended from the interior of Africa, at the head of more than 20,000 armed men, and, followed by a great number of women and Marabouts, he ravaged all the northern coast of the Gambia, arrived towards the mouth of that river, where he fought many battles with the King of Salum, and finally remained conqueror of the territories of Barra, of Kollor and of Badibou."

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The kingdom of "Kollor" or "Colar" has ceased to exist; it was formerly a small district between, and to the north of, Barra and Badibou, and is indicated in a map published by Mr. Adanson in 1756.

It is interesting to note that the present King of Barra or Nuomi is "Moranta Sonko," and the Sumar or Prime Minister is Barkari Sonko, probably descendants of the Mandingo warrior noticed by Golberry.

At the present moment the principal countries on the north bank of the river are occupied mostly by Mandingoes, and the dominant tribes in Combo on the south bank, are also of the same race, though the heathen Jolas in the bordering Fogni country are able to hold their own against them. Nuomi (Ceded Mile) Jokardo, Kiang, Jarra, Badibou, Niamina, Packow, Sanjal, and Niani, are all, more or less, peopled by Mandingoes, who practically control the trade of the lower river. Three-fourths of the ground nuts hitherto cultivated have been grown by them; the export of beeswax seems to be also dependent upon the Mandingoes, who bring it down from the interior of the Jola country. They also bring cattle and hides into the market, and cultivate cotton largely, which their women spin and weave into the "pagns" or country cloths, which play so conspicuous a part in the trade of the river.

The Mandingo language is rich and musical, and susceptible I understand, of more variety of expression than the Jolof tongue, which next after the Mandingo is, perhaps, the most prevalent language.

The latter adopt the decuple system of numeration, whereas the former only possess a quinquennial period. The following are the Mandingo numerals:—

One	Killing.
Two	Foulah.
Three	Sabba.
Four	Nanee.
Five	Luloo.
Six	Warrow.
Seven	Warraw Willa.
Eight	Say or Seygee.
Nine	Canonto.
Ten	Tan.
Eleven	Tan-in-Killing.
Twenty	Moang.
Thirty	Tan-sabba.
Forty	Tan-nan:
One hundred	Kemmay.
One thousand	Woollie.

The Mandingoes as a rule are Mohammedans, though many are "Soninkees;" and in all, their faith is permeated more or less with Fetishism. The term "Soninkee" is applied by Mohammedans to all people, irrespective of race, who drink spirits. Physi-

cally, they are in general a spare, athletic race, of medium height, often with aquiline features, but in contour, always distinct from the typical negro. In colour, they are not so dark as the Jolofs, but their hair is woolly. The laws in Mandingo towns are administered by "Alcalis," or "Sumas" both terms having the same signification. The only difference is that the former is a kind of Prime Minister in a Mohammedan town, while the latter holds a similar office in a Soninkee town. Murder and adultery are punished by death. The sentence in the former case is carried out by killing in the same manner as the murder was committed, and in the latter the adulterer is usually killed with cutlasses. The adulteress suffers only whipping, and is cast out by her husband. Theft is punished by whipping, an instrument somewhat similar to a "cat" being used for the purpose. Slander and disrespect to parents, or the aged, are punished by fine, which goes to the Alcali and headmen of the town. Immorality as distinguished from adultery is almost unknown; but if practised and discovered would meet with the death penalty as in adultery.

The Mandingoes still keep up a connexion with their original country, and recognise a supreme authority in the ancient Mandingo Kingdom, though the recognition is more sentimental than real, the distance being too great for any effective authority to be exercised.

The present King resides at Sangara, the capital of the Tilibo country, situated almost immediately at the source of the Niger.

2. *Sereres.*

This race occupies the neighbourhood of Joal, Seine, and Baol, to the north of the Gambia, and outside British jurisdiction, though many of them are settled on the Ceded Mile. They are a distinct people, with a language having no affinity either to the Mandingo or Jolof.

They are an independent and comparatively industrious people, cultivating largely both corn and rice; they also rear numerous cattle. As, however, their wants are extremely few they are of no great economical use in the Colony. They seldom buy cotton goods, and have no craving for luxuries of any description. Their wardrobes never consist of more than two pagns. During the dry season many Serere youths come to Bathurst to work as labourers for about three months, their ambition being satisfied when they have earned sufficient to buy a trade musket, a knife, a wooden box, and a few minor articles, such as iron bars, iron pots, raw cotton, &c. Others at times come in with small canoes, and cut firewood for the Bathurst market, and also do a little fishing.

In religion the Sereres are infidels, and except in a few instances have hitherto resisted all attempts to convert them to Islamism. They recognize a Supreme Being, but He is only invoked in case of hostile invasion, a fashion which has doubtless been borrowed

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from the Mohammedans. The King of Seine, who is the ruler of the Serere nation, keeps one Marabout attached to his person for this express purpose, but his services are never put into requisition on any other occasion.

Physically, they are a fine well-grown race, with not unpleasant features, their complexion as a rule, being of a deep black.

The present King of Seine is Bach N'Jie, Jal Gay having died in 1886, probably from too free indulgence in intoxicating liquors. The King of Seine exercises considerable influence over his subjects, and appoints a sort of governor named a "madungat" to represent him in subordinate districts, and the madungat has the power of appointing agents under himself, who are styled "jarraf." Nothing of importance, however, can be done without the King's consent.

The Sereres whilst in the Colony, readily submit themselves to English law. In their own country, the King administers the national substitute for justice. As with the Mandingoes, murder and adultery are punished with death; shooting or decapitation, according to the decree of the King, being the means adopted. Immorality is treated in a more lenient fashion, and resolves itself into a question of money. I am told, however, by persons who know the customs of both tribes well, that the Mandingoes and Sereres frequently condone the offence of adultery if the male culprit is rich enough to satisfy the outraged honour of the husband, and, moreover, from the necessity of extreme caution, that the wives resort to various cunning devices in order to deceive their husbands. The virtue of these communities is therefore more apparent than real.

Each Serere man is permitted by custom to have ten wives, but indulgence in a greater number is regarded as a pardonable folly. Theft is punished in a very drastic manner. The thief has the whole of his goods confiscated and handed over to the victim of the robbery.

As an illustration of the distinct character of the Serere language the following numerals are employed by them :—

One	Leng.
Two	Duck.
Three	Taduck
Four	Nahack.
Five	Bettack.
Six	Betta Foleng.
Seven	Betta Duck.
Eight	Betta Taduck.
Nine	Betta Nahack.
Ten	c'Harbo c'Hy.

It will be observed that the primitive quinquennial period is adopted by the Sereres, as is the case with the Joloffs.

In the event of a summons from the King, the whole of the absent Sereres would be compelled to return to Seine.

3. *Nominkas.*

This race occupies the region known as the kingdom of Nuomi or Barra. It is not easy to ascertain the precise boundaries of the old Nuomi kingdom, but at present the Nominkas are spread over the various towns along the Ceded Mile, a portion, however, residing outside the jurisdiction. According to Adanson's map the kingdom of "Bar," as it is styled, was bounded on the north by Colar, on the south by the north bank of the river, on the west by the Atlantic, and on the east by Badibou, but Colar appears to have been absorbed into Badibou. Formerly Barra was the most important of all the kingdoms of the Gambia, owing to the number and strength of the war canoes controlled by the King. Every vessel entering the river was compelled to pay a duty of nearly 21*l.*, which was collected by a governor, who resided at Jillifree, a town close to Albreda. This duty, however, was abolished by treaty with Brunay, King of Barra, on the 15th July 1826, and a yearly subsidy of 400 dollars given in exchange.

The present Nominkas appear to be divided into two sections, named respectively the Nomibartokas (meaning those living at the entrance of the river) and the Nomibantokas (meaning those living more within the river). The former occupy the region between Jonwar and Jinneck, and the latter live between the towns of Essow and Jooroonko.

The Nominkas are all Mandingoes; but the Nomibartokas live so near to the Sereres that they speak this language in addition to thei own.

Jonwar, mentioned above, forms one of a group of islets adjacent to the mouth of the Saloum River to the north of the Gambia. The inhabitants of these islets originally were under the control of the King of Nuomi; but in the years 1863–4, owing to oppression on the part of the ruling powers, they revolted, and were afterwards joined by the Marabouts in Nomibanta, who saw an opportunity of freeing themselves from the King's laws. Colonel D'Arcy, the then Administrator, remonstrated with the people on the Ceded Mile for interfering in the matter, but unavailingly, and he was ultimately compelled to use force. Hence the Tubarbecolong Expedition of 1866. Since then, the Nomibartokas have refused further tribute to the King and Princes of Nuomi.

The Nominkas communicate with Bathurst by means of large canoes, which some of them are very clever at making. These canoes will sometimes carry as much as three tons of ground nuts, of which they cultivate large quantities. Since the French have established themselves at Foundioune, and elsewhere in that neighbourhood, most of this produce is diverted from Bathurst. The market is, of course, nearer for the more northern portion of the Nominkas, but in addition, higher prices were at one time offered by the French than could be procured at Bathurst.

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The Nominkas also bring salt and dried fish to Bathurst, a portion of which they sell, and the rest is taken up the river to exchange for corn, &c.

In religion most of the Nominkas are now Mohammedans, though originally they were Soninkees. Their laws are similar to the Mandingoes from whom they sprang. Those on the Ceded Mile are of course amenable to English laws, and constables have been stationed at most of the towns to preserve order, and to make periodical reports to Bathurst upon the state of the country.

4 *Jolas.*

The history of this primitive and extraordinary race is involved in much obscurity. No idea appears to exist amongst themselves in regard to their origin, and even tradition is silent except as to recent events in the chronicles of their country.

My remarks on this race in the Blue Book Report for 1885 were confined to the Jolas in the neighbourhood of the Gambia, and my information was derived with great difficulty from converse, through interpreters, with the most intelligent representatives of the race I was able to secure. There are, however, very few residents in Bathurst who speak the language, and under favourable circumstances, Jola intelligence is of such a low standard that it is not easy to acquire much reliable ethnological information from them.

So far as it is possible to learn from the people themselves, the Jolas, or Fellups, have always occupied a region having for its eastern boundary, Vintang Creek, following the course of that tributary, and extending as far south as the head waters of Cazamance, continuing along the north bank of that river to its mouth and from thence extending to the limits of Foreign Combo. The Banyans, Papels, Balantes and Biafares (sometimes called "Jolas" appear to be allied races. Durand, a former Governor of Isle St. Louis, in his voyage to Senegal published in 1806, gives some interesting details of these people, and the extensive Portuguese establishments, which then existed at various stations in Vintang Creek, and the Cazamance. He remarks that both banks of the latter river "are inhabited by savage and cruel Felups, who will "not hold any communication with the whites, and are always at "war with their neighbours." Those, however, who resided in the neighbourhood of the Gambia, appear to have shown different characteristics, for in writing of the town of Bintan (Vintang) the same author says: "The negro inhabitants of this part are Felups, "they speak a language peculiar to themselves, and are idolaters ". . . . Those of Bintan or its environs, who are occupied in "commerce, are gentle, frank, and civilized; they like strangers, are "always ready to render them service, and are candid and honest "in their commercial dealings." Golberry likewise refers to this

race as follows: "The Felupp negroes, who occupy a country of 25 leagues in length by 15 in breadth, upon the banks of the "River Casamance, and on the upper course of the Vintan, have "retained all the roughness of a savage life in which they delight "to live, without, however, being of a ferocious nature." It is to be feared that the Jolas have made absolutely no advance towards civilization since that time, but if anything have retrograded. Vintang Creek, once an important trading district, producing large quantities of wax, hides, and ivory, is now all but abandoned, and the people content themselves with the cultivation of sufficient rice and corn to supply the bare necessaries of life. This result is principally owing to internecine wars, the Jolas have always been a prey to the invading Mandingoes, who endeavour to capture them as slaves, but they are dangerous enemies, and often get the better of their adversaries. Formerly there was an Emperor of "Fogni," the most northern portion of the Jola country, but such a functionary has long since disappeared, and at the present moment there appears to be no form of government in the country. Fogni is now divided into districts as follows, all comprised within the limits of Lower or Foreign Combo: Fellup, Siati, Mungoon, Cabbillie, Binkin, and Carroon. There are also another set called the Chabon Jolas, who live more in the immediate neighbourhood of the Cazamance, but they do not all speak the same language. They are decidedly an industrious race, and numbers of them come to Bathurst to obtain work as labourers, especially during the trade season. Vessels are laden almost entirely by Jola women, and the merchants would find it difficult to get on without them. Physically, they are not an attractive looking race, and both sexes wear little or no clothing. In their own country there is practically no Government and no law; every man does as he chooses, and the most successful thief is considered the greatest man. There is no recognised punishment for murder or any other crime. Individual settlement is the only remedy and the fittest survivor.

Unlike the rule amongst most African races, there is absolutely no formality in regard to marriage, or what passes for marriage amongst them. Natural selection is observed on both sides, and the pair after having ascertained a reciprocity of sentiment at once cohabit. No presents are made by the bridegroom, and the consent of the parents is entirely ignored. They do not intermarry with any other race.

There appear to be three distinct languages spoken by the Jolas, having no affinity to those of the contiguous tribes and but little resemblance to each other. The vocabulary appears to be poor, as might be expected in the case of a people with so few wants.

The Jolas do not count beyond ten, and distinct terms are used only up to five, as in all the tribes noticed, except the Mandingoes

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The numerals of the Vintang and Carrone sections are as follows :—

One	Eanor.
Two	Coo-cooba or Soo-cooba.
Three	Hoo-hahjee or See-hahjee.
Four	Coo-bakeer or See-bakeer.
Five	Foutoc.
Six	Foutoc d'eanor.
Seven	Foutoc coo-cooba.
Eight	Foutoc hoo-hahjee.
Nine	Foutoc coo-bakeer.
Ten	Coo ^{n}Yen.

Beyond these figures counting becomes pantomimic, the people using both hands and feet to represent higher numbers. Pieces of stick are also employed for the same purpose.

It is evident from these facts that the Jolas, whether from persecution, or for some other cause, have always been an isolated race, and have shunned contact with their neighbours. In spite of the proselytising nature of the powerful Mandingoes, they have utterly failed to introduce Mohammedanism, and the Portuguese appear to have been equally unsuccessful in establishing the Roman Catholic religion. Durand notices that there was a church at Vintang, but on my visit to this town in March last, there was not the smallest indication that a civilized race had ever held communication with the people. Now that the British flag has been hoisted at Vintang and Kansalla, it is to be hoped that the capabilities of this still fertile district will receive fresh development. The india-rubber industry is capable of great expansion in this neighbourhood.

5. *Jolofs.*

Although "Jolof" is a word very frequently used in Bathurst, and most of the inhabitants speak that language, yet, as a matter of fact, very few of the genuine race are to be found in it. The habitat of the Jolofs is in the adjoining French Colony of Senegal, and comprises Jolof, Cayor, Baol, and Saloum. Formerly the Jolof nation was united under one Emperor or King, who was styled "Burf-i-Jolof;" but dissensions arose, ending in separation, each district choosing a King of its own. The Jolofs proper, are stated to be a handsome race, and, as a rule, those of both sexes with whom I have come into contact, have been tall and well formed, with a jetty blackness of complexion. They are proud and exceedingly vain, claiming for themselves a very ancient descent. The women are inordinately fond of gay apparel and personal adornment of every description. They frequently pierce the ear along the entire edge with a series of holes, so that this feature may be as far as possible loaded with ornamentation. The wool is pulled out to its extreme length, and plaited into thin strips, which hang from the head, giving a peculiar character to these

natives. The natural plaits are supplemented with artificial ones made of a native dyed fibre, and the whole is smeared with a rancid grease which emits a very offensive odour. Of their moral qualifications, report speaks very unfavourably, mendacity, deceit, and licentiousness being prominent characteristics of this people. In religion they are fervent Mohammedans; they rarely intermarry with any other race, and are extremely sensitive to any mishap in this direction. They contribute little except their language to the economical needs of the Colony, our neighbours, the French, extracting whatever profit there is to be gained from contact with them.

In connexion with the Jolofs in my reports for 1885 and 1887 I gave some details in regard to Badibou, which need not be repeated here. This kingdom, formerly ruled by an independent chief, is, pending negotiations, now controlled by the French, who have a small garrison stationed at ⁿYoro, the capital. Mahmoud ⁿDery Bah has recently died, and Saide Mattie is still a refugee at Bathurst. Bearam Ceasey, who governed the eastern part of Badibou, was some time ago removed to St. Louis by the French authorities, and this country, which for several years was the *bête noir* of the Government, is now once more peaceful, and the inhabitants have settled down to agricultural pursuits.

The Jolof language is expressive, and has received considerable attention from philologists, more than one grammar having been published.

The numerals are as follows:—

One	Ben-na
Two	ⁿYar
Three	Nee-etta
Four	Nee-a-nent
Five	Joorome
Six	Joorome-benna
Seven	Joorome-ⁿyar.
Eight	Joorome-nee-etta.
Nine	Joorome-nee-anent
Ten	Fooka
Twenty	ⁿyar Fooka
One hundred	Tay-mir.

Golberry, who gives a vocabulary of the Jolof language, pertinently comments upon the curious fact that in spite of the contiguity of the Jolofs to the Moors, who adopt the Arabic system of numeration, the former should have persistently adhered to the method of reckoning on one hand only, instead of on both. It is a curious and perplexing circumstance that the Mandingoes, who are an inland people, and probably came into contact with more enlightened races at a later period than the tribes nearer the coast, should be in advance of all the other races in this portion of West Africa in their system of counting. The question whether their method originated with the language or has been acquired at a

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6. *Salum Salums.*

This race requires only a brief notice.

They are neighbours of the Sereres, and through intermarriage their language is a mixture of Jolof and Serere.

In religion they are partly Marabouts and partly Soninkees.

The former frequently take wives from the latter, but no Marabout would give his daughter to a Soninkee, unless to a King or a Prince, and that reluctantly.

They are a fairly industrious race, but this Colony gains little by their exertions. All ground nuts naturally go to the French, as being the nearest market. A few cattle and hides are occasionally brought to Bathurst to exchange for English goods.

7. *Lowbeys.*

This race may be described as the gipsies of N.W. Africa.

It is almost impossible to obtain any certain information in regard to their history. They wander about from place to place but have no settled country. There can be no doubt that they are practically the same race as the Foulahs, though for some reason they have become detached from them. Those I have seen were decidedly better looking than the average negro, resembling the Foulahs, though of a darker complexion.

They confine themselves almost exclusively to the making of the various wooden utensils in use by natives generally, and the manufacture of canoes. They settle temporarily with any tribe, but never intermarry with another race, thus preserving the type of feature which obviously separates them from their human surroundings.

In religion most of them are pagans, though a few profess Islamism. They have no laws of their own, but are guided by those of the people with whom they are for the time being located. In case of war happening, they very sensibly remove at once to a district where there is peace.

They are of but little economical use in the Colony, as their wants are few, and beyond the implements which they require for their avocation, they purchase little or nothing from Bathurst.

The Foulahs and Toocalores to whom allusion has been made are practically the same race. Little need be said of them, as the former are a well-known race, and many travellers have noted their unusual lightness of complexion. Dr. Gouldsbury in his report on the Upper Gambia Expedition gives a concise history of this people. Their capital is Timbo in the Futa Jallon country. The town is situated in lat. 10° 38′ N. and long. 11° 10′ W.

The Toocalores reside principally in the Futa Toro country in Senegal; but from having intermixed with other races they are darker in colour. They are a warlike people, and at times are troublesome to our neighbours the French.

As the question of African languages seems to me a very interesting one, I have appended a vocabulary* of common words and expressions used in the Mandingo, Jolof, Serere, Jola, and Foulah languages, all of which are spoken within a comparatively small radius of the Gambia. No one can fail to be struck with the marked differences in the word forms of the various languages, though Mr. Robert Cust, in his valuable work, "The modern Languages of Africa," classes all except the Foulah in one group which he styles the northern section of the Atlantic sub-group, and which extends from the River Senegal to Cape Mount. It is difficult, however, for any but a trained philologist to detect wherein the relationship lies, or how such radical distinctions could exist and be preserved in the languages of races living in close proximity to each other. The Jolas especially offer a very curious problem to the ethnologist, it is not probable that they were ever an interior race which has been pushed gradually by stronger neighbours to the sea, and it is somewhat extraordinary that they should have been able hitherto to withstand the power of the conquering Mandingo and to maintain their individuality. It is true that they have always been a savage and intractable people, but in point of numbers their weakness would seem to mark them out as an easy prey to the invaders. This, however, is far from being the case, and there is but little of the Jola country in the hands of strangers. Ogilby, who wrote in 1670, gives the boundaries as lying between Cape St. Mary and the River St. Domingo; the same author also comments upon the high value set upon Jolas as slaves by the Portuguese.

My vocabulary has been taken down from information supplied by actual representatives of each race, and I have endeavoured to spell the words in such a manner that there should be no mistake in the pronunciation.

General Remarks.

The year 1888 has shown a decided revival in the principal export trade of the Settlement, whereas in 1887 only 2,986 tons of ground nuts were shipped; in 1888 the export had increased to 10,207 tons, thereby considerably influencing the general prosperity of the Colony.

This cheering revival is mainly owing to the absence of native complications in the river. The fertile district of Baddiboo is once more under cultivation, and so long as the French occupy Nyoro, or some other strong Power insists upon the preservation of peace, this region will contribute very materially to the maintenance of the Colony.

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* *See* pp. 42 and 43.

GAMBIA.

The whole of the right bank of the river may now be said to be in a state of quiescence. For the present at least there are no Chiefs likely to attain to the power and importance of Mahmond nDery Bah, Saide Mattie, and Beram Ceasey, and on the south bank Fodey Cabba is the only marauder of sufficient force to be troublesome. Fodey Selah, in Foreign Combo, is an undesirable neighbour; but so far, he has not seriously interfered with the trade of the Colony. Fodey Cabba, on the other hand, may be said to have sterilized a very large district, and made any permanent trading establishments in Kiang and Jarra out of the question. I should be glad to see him driven from the country, but without Imperial aid this result could not be achieved.

As I have reported elsewhere, this man's existence is a curse to the neighbourhood; he lives by slave hunting and robbery. None of his neighbours, unfortunately, are strong enough to drive him out, and he naturally attracts to his cause all the idle and worthless ruffians who prefer living on the industry of others, to doing any honest work for themselves.

With Fodey Cabba crushed, there can be little doubt that a fresh era of prosperity would arise for the Gambia; even under existing circumstances, when the fertile district over which his baneful influence extends, remains practically uncultivated, the export of ground nuts for 1889 will be above the average of the last ten years, which average may be placed at 16,000 tons. Kiang and Jarra are capable of adding very materially to this total in the absence of Fodey Cabba.

There was no epidemic disease in the Colony during the year 1888, and although the rainfall was below the average, the bad season could not be said to be markedly unhealthy.

The year 1887, from a mercantile point of view, was the worst that had been experienced for many years, and it is difficult to know how the Colony could have maintained its existence through another similar period; happily things have taken a turn for the better, but the serious menace of one staple still remains, and so long as this is the case there can be little hope of permanent prosperity for the Gambia. I have, however, great hope that a flourishing india-rubber industry will spring up, more especially since it has been demonstrated that the Ceará rubber tree thrives well in the Gambia, and it is well known that West Africa generally produces trees and vines capable of yielding excellent rubber if they could be worked systematically. Unfortunately, the principal habitat of the indigenous trees is the wild Jola country, which is difficult of access, and the people do not encourage strangers; now, however, that we have a footing at Vintang and Kansalla, I trust that more may be done. I have collected all the seeds of the Ceará rubber I could gather, and shall have them distributed in favourable localities in time for the rainy season. There is no reason why large tracts in British

Combo and the Ceded Mile should not eventually produce these trees in abundance, and thus establish a valuable industry at our doors.

I fear it is almost hopeless without imported labour to introduce any new economical plant which requires systematic culture. The natives have been so long accustomed to ground nuts, which do not require much attention or labour, that, unless this produce becomes absolutely unsaleable, nothing will induce them to abandon it. Ambition or any desire to better their condition seems to be wholly absent from the great bulk of the people of whatever race. Under such circumstances the only marvel is that the Gambia has held its own for so long, but the measure of prosperity hitherto attained is an indication of what might be done under happier circumstances. If, however, peace could be secured, there is, I am convinced, a future for the Gambia, and its magnificent waterway may, I trust, always remain in the hands of Great Britain, under whose flag there can be no doubt the great mass of natives prefer to shelter themselves.

G. T. CARTER,
Administrator.

APPENDIX.

VOCABULARY OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN THE GAMBIA.

English.	Mandingo.	Jolof.	Serere.	Jola. (Carroon District.)	Jola. (Cazarnance District.)	Foulah.
Man	Mo, or Kay	Gour	Korr	An	Anninōw	Neddo
Woman	Mooso	Jigen	Otayo	Al	Assacow	Debbo
Child	Dindingo	Gooney	Obāndow	Anyee	Anyelow	Chou kalel
Brother	Barring kay	Chammēn	Oniargus	Ahhōboam	Attioomba	Bandam
Sister	Barring mooso	Jigen	Ochīggales	Ahhōboam	Alleenoñ	Bandam debbo
Bread	Moonkō	[m]Bourou	Ogāff	Ee moaff	Epporye	Choandi
Water	Jeeō	[n]Dock	Fāwfee	Man	Woolāmemum	Ndieam
Hot	Candiāh	Tangȳe	Omachana	Alloonda	Boli boli	Willie
Cold	Soo mȳiar	Seddēr	Ochoggun	Cahjee	Eeon cannion	Bōbee
Black	Fing	Nule	Bāllagoo	Eh bonna	Lyen lyen	Bōwellee
White	Cōyo	Weckh	Tan	Eh joonga	Twẹn twen	Rōwonee
Sun	Teetō	Nadj	Sed	Pee seāh	Bālagabōo	Māhngay
Moon	Carro	Wehr	Ongōll	Heem	Foolēngafoo	Lāyoo
Star	Lolo	Biddoh	Akōrr	Ellan	Ee otȳon	Cōaddee
Good	Bettare	Bach	Afārrah	Añnabānnab	Nahjajack	Nah mo gee
Bad	Mam Bettare	Bon	Sōkodoo	Annaboot	Ahjackoot	Mudjān
To-day	Bee	Tay	[c]Hannay	Fee o see	Jaht	Handay
To-morrow	Sōma	Elleg	Ofate	Cahjum	Cahjūm	Subācha
Yesterday	Coonoong	Dēmba	Fakh	Tanda	Foochām	Hankee
Good morning	Sahma	Kaywoo	[m]Baldo	Boojum	Sah fee	Jam wāhlee

Vocabulary of African Languages spoken in the Gambia—*continued.*

English.	Mandingo.	Jolof.	Serere.	Jola. (Carroon District.)	Jola. (Cazarnance District.)	Foulah.
Are you well?	Ebbee, hērratoo	Jama ⁿgam	Jam jaygo	Aho bettacooly chanjo	Jah māhnee	Saddee
Yes	Hah	Wāhoo	Ec o	Yoh	Mālagen	Ayee
No	Hah nee	Deydit	Feckinnem	Hahnee	Ahnee	Allāh
Do you love me?	Ec ing cānno bah	Bar sopa ⁿgama	Bouga hung	Ak la feeta ᵐbah	Injinni pengyee pengyee	Ahno yedim
I love you very much	ⁿGah ec cānno bakee	Sopa neeh lah loll	Bouga hung spakh	Ah sobone	Injinni pengyee pengyee murmuch	Neeno yedi
Give me bread	Inso moonko	My ma ᵐbourou	Cheeam nogāffaly	Oonan emoaff	Oo seynum épporye	Rokam choandee
Give me money	Inso codoo	My ma halece	Cheeam halēce	Oonam colee	Oo seynum e copper-eye	Rokam halece
Where are you going?	Ebbita minto	Foee dem	Tamōrritah	Peynam kah kyee	Bahno jyebot	Oto ⁿjahta
What town is this?	ⁿYing sahtáyo moong sahtayo lemmoo	Deka billy can lah	Fahnoom saytey reffmenny	Sahtay pee emmay	Essoo, cayo cartabod	Hono ⁿdeysāhree wee etty
Have you fowls?	Soosay beyeefay bah	Am ⁿ'gah e gamar	Jeggoro acheck	Nekootey kootōl	Noobabah ayee loll	Ah hēbbahnee gertogāll
Have you eggs?	Killo beybefay bah	Am ngah e nen	Jeggoro akkin	Nekootey peh	Noobabah fellāh foo obokah	Ah hēbbahnee bochod-di gertogāll
I, thou, he	Intay, etay, ahtay	Man, yow, maum	Me, waw, ohēnny	Injey, angah, angah	Injee, ahwoo, obokah	Ahu, meen oh
We, you, they	Intolu, altolu, etolu	Nyune, ⁿyon, ⁿyom	Enaw, womnah, nunokh	Onee, pahkenta pah-kenta	Obokoo, sokānnakoo, obokah	Minnen, onnon, beyah
She is very pretty	Omooso bey neenēe dring bakee	Kooam tar lah	Oteyo amoosa	Anga wooly wooly	Nah pincha pincha	Debbo inawāydee
He is ugly	Kay mooloong jowoo	Nyow nah	Okeino farjo	Ango wōtee wōtee	Nar cojee cojee	Gorko Kobūndo
They are going	Etolu jeeta	Nyou ngah dem	Arretah	Ono bokye	Bokah nahkoo ocarjye	Beyah yacha
We are coming soon	Intolu jinnah sighee	ⁿYou ⁿgay ⁿyow leggee	Dekee dekee ⁿgar	Teyfeyo oonobee	ⁿYemmy ⁿyemmy nēēbolu	Ninnen joni joni
It is raining	Sanjeeo bey boula	Moo ⁿgay tahoo	Rogue fanny ᶜheddibah	Etteel, yo bettee taygennoop	Emmetye yoilee neckanoop	Tōbo ināhra
Wait under the tree	Bahtoo kayero doomah	Harral chee soofee garrap gee	Arreti choomgam ⁿdakhar nahna	Toolēmmo teynooneah	Ocobbum neebo barro-boo	Faddamdah
Are you hungry?	Konko beyeela bah	Heef ngah	Carno o heckhel	Peypo peypo moocka moock	Bachārraboo nahreeary	Ahuannoheydee
I am hungry	Imbey konkawring	Heef nah	Eeo ᶜharehem	Peypoo peypo ninjee	Bacharraboo injee	Ahno heydee
I am thirsty	Mindo beynah	Marr nah	Kammarr fofee	Pah hop	Bahrānnaboo	Ahno domedah
Give me milk	Inso kay kay	Myma soh	Cheeam osis	Oonam kay kay	Ooseynum mclemmo	Kokam cossam

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 49.

GIBRALTAR.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Report, No. 7.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1889.

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1889.

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5	New Zealand	1886
6	Tobago	1887
7	Gibraltar	,,
8	Gold Coast (Governor's visit to the Eastern Districts).	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887).	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
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31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	British Bechuanaland	,,
44	Victoria	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888

No. 49.

GIBRALTAR.

Sir A. E. HARDINGE to Lord KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, March 28, 1889.

HEREWITH I have the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the annual "Blue Book" of this Colony for the year 1888, together with the report thereon of Mr. Cavendish Boyle, Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HARDINGE,
General and Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
SIR, March 25, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1888.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency General the Hon.
Sir Arthur E. Hardinge, K.C.B., C.I.E.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of GIBRALTAR for 1888.

Finance.

The public revenue for the year was pesetas 1,481,571 against pesetas 1,442,441 in 1887. The "refunds" in 1887 amounted to pts. 42,297, being the repayments from the Savings Bank to general revenue of advances made in 1886–7. The actual increase of revenue in 1888 over 1887 is pts. 75,610.

The increase was derived chiefly from the following departmental sub-divisions :—

	Pts.
Port dues - - - -	60,421
House rents - - - -	7,424
Savings Bank - - - -	10,692

GIBRALTAR.

There was also an increase observable in the amount of telegraph fees; but this is only apparent and not actual, inasmuch as the revenue brought to account in 1888 embraces part of the receipts of 1887, a large proportion of which was due to the Spanish Government for messages transmitted through Spanish land lines. Since the establishment by the Eastern Telegraph Company of a direct cable route to Cadiz the business of the Government Telegraph Department has decreased considerably, and a further falling off of revenue under this head must be expected.

The sources of revenue showing a decrease are as follows:—

	Pts.
Duty on wines - - - -	6,234
Duty on spirits - - -	3,825
Rent of Queen's stores - - -	3,042
Postage and money order commission -	3,642

Trade is depressed in Spain, and hence the falling off in the duty received under the two first heads. Recent legislation in that country prohibits the importation of spirits except through a limited number of ports. The nearest port to Gibraltar through which spirits are allowed to enter is Cadiz. Hitherto the port of Gibraltar has served as a depôt for the supply of spirits to the neighbouring towns, and the merchants now find it more remunerative to ship direct to Cadiz without transhipment and storage in this Colony.

The Colonial expenditure in 1888 amounted to pts. 1,326,525, showing a decrease of pts. 2,465. In the majority of the departmental establishments slight increases are observable consequent on some increases and readjustment of salaries as sanctioned in each instance by Her Majesty's Government.

The principal decreases are under the respective heads of port department, pts. 11,842, being a saving on the working and repairing of steam launches; Attorney-General's Department, pts. 2,470, no retainer for extra counsel having been necessary. Education, pts. 1,038, consequent on the reduced grant to public schools. Pensions, pts. 8,667, consequent on the death of the late Attorney-General, and roads and streets, pts. 1,088, from the reduction in the sanitary assessment rate on revenue buildings. In works and buildings a decrease of pts. 12,150 is apparent so far as actual payments during the year are taken into account, but there were a certain number of new works commenced, but not completed, for which payment has to be provided during the financial year, and which will form a charge on the estimates for 1889.

The revenue exceeded the expenditure during 1888 by pts. 155,045, and the financial position of the Colony at the commencement of the new year may be said to be very sound. The invested funds increased from 4,587*l.* to 8,199*l.*, and a debt of 768*l.* due to the Crown Agents on general account was discharged.

The balance of assets and liabilities on the 31st December 1888 was pts. 293,449.

Whilst reporting on the finances of the Colony it may not be out of place to explain that the currency of Gibraltar is that of Spain. The average rate of exchange, being that fixed by Government for all public remittances, was pts. 25·67 to the £ sterling. The highest market rate was pts. 26·05 and the lowest pts. 25·43 during the year.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS.

Revenue.

	Pts.
1887 - - - - -	1,442,442
1888 - - - - -	1,481,571

Expenditure.

	Pts.
1887 - - - - -	1,328,990
1888 - - - - -	1,326,525

Subdivided:—

Revenue.

	1887.	1888.
	Pts.	Pts.
Customs - - - - -	290,333	281,982
Port dues amd rates, &c. - - -	493,482	553,407
Land revenue - - - -	185,674	194,173
Post Office receipts and Savings Bank revenues - - - - -	200,955	210,767
Licenses - - - - -	161,391	158,642
Fines and forfeitures - - -	27,246	28,656
Fees of office, &c. - - - -	81,296	48,931
Interest on invested funds - - -	2,061	5,010

Expenditure.

	1887.	1888.
	Pts.	Pts.
Departmental (fixed establishments) -	1,010,285	1,031,997
Pensions - - - - -	57,342	48,675
Ecclesiastical - - - -	25,219	25,219
Works and buildings - - -	186,399	174,249
Roads and streets - - - -	15,029	13,940
Miscellaneous - - - -	34,713	32,443

GIBRALTAR.

All public accounts are now kept in pesetas and centimos. Arrangements are being made to express the denominations of postage stamps, &c., in the local currency, so that only postal and money orders will remain expressed in British money.

The troops are paid in British gold, and the sovereigns find a ready market with the bankers on an average rate of premium of 5*d.* to the £.

Whilst it has been decided, after mature and careful consideration, that the currency of Spain, and of Spain only, shall be the legal currency of Gibraltar, there can be no doubt that the existing arrangements with regard to this somewhat complicated question are not entirely satisfactory. Gold coins are of extreme rarity in the fortress; the Spanish "doblon" has almost disappeared, and consequently the unwieldy silver dollar or 5-peseta piece is the coin of the largest denomination available for the purposes of trade and of official payments.

The issue of notes by the local branch of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank under a guarantee by that institution in the shape of approved securities deposited in the Colonial treasury has been strongly recommended by the local executive, and the project is now under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

It is very generally believed that such an arrangement, which has been found to work satisfactorily in other Colonies, would be hailed as a great boon by all concerned, and would tend greatly to obviate the present inconvenience experienced by the official and mercantile portion of the community in making payments of any large amounts.

It has been proposed that these notes should be of legal tender only within the Colony, and that their value should be 25 pesetas, or 5 dollars each.

The weights and measures in common use are the same as the Imperial weights and measures, with the exception of the "arroba," which is equivalent to 26 lbs. English, or 3½ gallons, and of the "fanega," of which five (strake measure of wheat) are equal to eight Winchester bushels, or two "fanegas" (heaped measure of maize or horse beans) to 4⅘ Winchester bushels.

Public Debt.

There is none. The Blue Book returns show that the Sanitary Commissioners' debt, which is secured on the general rates, amounted to pesetas 1,414,436 at the end of the year.

Laws.

There were 14 Orders in Council and Ordinances passed during the year, the principal of which were the Ordinance enabling the Governor to appoint Commissioners of Inquiry; the Fraudulent Marks Ordinance; the Interpretation Order in Council; the Jury Ordinance; the Summary Jurisdiction (Amending) Ordinance, and the Friendly Societies Ordinance.

Colonial Civil Service.

The following changes in the establishments of the Colony took place during 1888:—

Lord Gifford resigned the Colonial Secretaryship in the beginning of the year, and the undersigned was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Consequent on the death of Dr. Bryant, the following changes were made in the Medical Department in August:—

Surgeon-Major Duke, M.S., port surgeon,
W. Turner, M.D., police surgeon,
A. Triay, M.B., medical officer for the town and south districts,
H. A. Imossi, M.D., public vaccinator, and,
Surgeon-Major R. Collins, M.S., was appointed inspector of food, in December.

The names of Mr. Francis Imossi and Mr. Benjamin Carver were added to the Commission of the Peace in September.

Imports and Exports.

Gibraltar being practically a free port no account under this head is available.

Shipping.

Compared with the year 1887 the following tables are given as to the number and tonnage and crews of vessels entered in the port:—

Year.	Vessels arrived.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1887 - - - -	6,391	5,259,927	147,341
1888 - - - -	6,859	5,999,249	168,207
Increase in 1888 - - -	468	739,322	20,866

In 1888 the number of sailing vessels was 736, with a tonnage of 85,937 and carrying crews aggregating 5,109, whilst of steam vessels entered there were 6,123, with a total tonnage of 5,905,312 and carrying crews numbering in all 163,098. The marked increase in the number of vessels calling both for trade purposes and for coals is highly satisfactory. No less than 395 more ships are noted as having coaled here during the past year than in 1887.

GIBRALTAR.

Population and Public Health.

To the report of Surgeon-Major Collins, of the medical staff, and health officer, under the "Sanitary Order in Council," I am indebted for the following particulars:—

Dr. Collins bases his vital statistics on a fixed estimate of the civil population as taken from the census returns of 1881, which give the resident civilians as numbering 18,381 persons, whilst his rates for the troops are taken on an average strength of 5,708.

From these figures the following results are arrived at:—

Births per 1,000 of fixed civil population	-	27·7
Do. of the military	-	22·4
Deaths per 100 of the civilians	-	20·5
Do. of the military	-	8·9

There were 510 births amongst civilians and 128 amongst the military, whilst there were 378 deaths recorded amongst the fixed civil population, 51 amongst the military and 41 amongst non-residents.

Compared with 1887 there is a marked decrease in the number of deaths registered amongst the civilian population. In the former year a total of 509 is reached, so that a decrease of 131 is shown, or 7·2 per 1,000.

In "general diseases" 139 deaths were tabulated; local diseases, 237; and "injuries," 2.

In 1888 the deaths of infants under one year reached the large number of 86 against 78 in 1887; and Dr. Collins reports that on an average one third of the children born in the fortress die before they reach the age of five years.

To turn to the other extreme, four deaths were recorded at 90 years or upwards, and one at the remarkable age of 108.

Amongst the deaths recorded under Group A. (specific febrile) 12 from diphtheria are noticed, which disease, whilst it does not assume the form of an epidemic, carries off a certain number of victims yearly. In the present instance there were 20 cases reported, so that the mortality assumed the large proportion of 60 per cent.

There were four deaths from simple continued fever against one in 1887.

Enteric fever was fatal in eight cases against five in 1887.

No deaths are recorded from small-pox, nor has there been any amongst the civil population since 1884.

There can be no doubt that the ordinary climatic conditions of the Colony are very favourable to health; but the sanitary conditions are far from satisfactory; the drainage leaves much to be desired, and excessive overcrowding is a fertile source of disease and death. Until some means are devised to correct this latter evil, sanitary measures, however complete, must fail to attain their full results.

The water supply, as far as regards the rainfall, should be ample; but there is a want of system in its collection, and the lower classes

of the community are most careless in this matter, allowing foul water to enter the tanks from dirty roofs and still dirtier terraces and patios.

It is to be hoped that during the year a scheme may be found feasible under which the serious defects of the present drainage system, water supply, and housing of the poorer and working classes may be remedied.

Meteorological.

The rainfall during 1888 was 47·81 inches, an unusually heavy record.

The highest recorded temperature in the shade was 88·6, once in June and again once in July.

The lowest was 40·2 on the 31st of January.

The average humidity was 75° against 86° in 1887.

Criminal Statistics.

There were 1,930 offences reported to the police, of which 94 were offences against the person, 102 against property, and 1,734 other offences.

The number of summary convictions in the Police Magistrate's Court was 1,032, or an excess of 219 over last year's return; 562 persons were discharged with cautions.

There were 60 convictions before the Captain of the Port, or 83 less than in 1887; 24 persons were cautioned.

Eighteen cases were brought for trial in the Supreme Court, of which nine were for offences against the person, eight against property, and one came under the heading of "Miscellaneous Offences."

The Crown obtained verdicts in 14 cases. In one case of larceny of mail matter the grand jury ignored the bill, and in three cases verdicts were returned for the accused.

Gaols and Prisoners.

Two hundred and thirty-nine persons were committed during the year to the civil prison ("common gaol") of the Colony, of whom 178 were men, 4 women, and 57 juveniles; 17 prisoners had one, 10 two, and 43 three or more previous convictions recorded against them; 27·60 was the daily average in the prison. There were 14 admissions to hospital, and the daily average of sick was 0·60.

Eight persons were committed by the Supreme Court for debt, 13 for petty debt, want of security, and safe custody; and 218 for purposes of penal imprisonment; of the last-named 4 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years and upwards, 7 for one year or more, but less than five years, 5 for more than three months but under one year, and 202 for three months or less.

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The new cells for convicts were completed during the year, and form a noteworthy improvement of the gaol. The cost of the work was pts. 11,147.

The improvements to the superintendent's quarters were also commenced and were nearing completion at the end of December.

Public Institutions.

The hospital return gives the following figures:—The daily average of in-patients was 53; the total number of admissions was 457, of whom 382 were males and 75 females, and 60 remained over from 1887, comprising 43 males and 17 females; 374 were discharged cured and 33 died; 31 were relieved and 14 showed no improvement.

Compared with the return of the previous year the number of in-patients shows a decrease in admissions of 57.

The number of out-patients was 17,265, showing an increase of 1,653 on the previous year.

The services of two experienced and skilled ladies to perform the duties respectively of matron and head nurse were obtained from England, and they entered upon their duties in July. A marked improvement in the management and care of the sick has been the result.

The surgeon was relieved of the duties of secretary and treasurer in December; and a Commission of Inquiry into the management and organisation of the institution commenced its sittings on the 24th of the same month, and continued its labours into January of the present year.

In the Lunatic Asylum the average number of patients was 22·15, of which number 16·79 are returned under the male heading, and 5·36 under that of females; nine men and two women were admitted; one male and one female were discharged cured; and two men were relieved, whilst two died.

Education.

The question of education presents some considerable difficulties, and still remains under consideration.

The returns of the Government-aided private schools show that pts. 35,961 were paid by the Government, divided as follows:—Pts. 1,442 to the Church of England; pts. 20,028 to the Roman Catholic; pts. 3,449 to the Wesleyan; pts. 2,393 to the Hebrew; pts. 4,510 to the public school (undenominational); and pts. 3,959 to the infant mixed school.

The aggregate of school fees was pts. 7,268, and the amount of voluntary contributions was pts. 26,130.

There were 81 scholars on the roll of the Church of England School, the average attendance being 57. In the Roman Catholic schools the number on the rolls was 1,177; the average attendance 692. In the Wesleyan there were 247 on the roll and 131 on the

average attendance list; 122 on the roll of the Hebrew school, and 92 in average attendance; 215 on the public school lists, and 200 attended; 185 on the infant school list, and 163 in average attendance.

Military Expenditure.

The total military expenditure was 237,013*l.* There are no returns furnished by the naval establishment.

Public Works and Buildings.

The most noteworthy of the new works brought to completion during the year were the female wards of the civil hospital, costing pts. 13,971; the reconstruction of the portico of the court-house, pts. 2,196; the new convict cells in the civil prison, to which allusion has been made above; a new gas engine for the Alameda Gardens, on which pts. 2,895 was expended, and extension of cattle sheds and improved lighting of Waterport wharf, pts. 3,912.

General.

The annual report of the "Chamber of Commerce" shows that during the past year an improvement was evinced in all commercial transactions; the shipping interest displayed a noteworthy activity; the coal business increased to a considerable extent; the freight market also improved, and trade generally showed more satisfactory results than in 1887. On the Morocco littoral this improvement was marked, whilst the completion of the railway from Bobadilla to Algeciras is looked forward to by the Chamber as likely to further stimulate the trade of the Colony.

A new departure in the cork industry is favourably remarked upon by the directors.

A branch of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank was established within this city in July 1888; and the possibility of the construction of a dry dock is hailed by the Chamber with marked satisfaction.

Statistical Returns.

The usual returns for the Board of Trade are herewith annexed, and an additional table, showing the number, &c., of vessels arriving at this port in transit, which passed the Suez Canal, as well as of those which cleared herefrom, is also added.

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APPENDIX I.

RETURNS FOR THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Population estimated.

1887.		1888.	
Civil - -	18,372	Civil - -	18,464
Military - -	5,939	Military - -	6,003
Male - -	14,337	Male - -	14,432
Female - -	9,974	Female - -	10,035

	1887.	1888.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - -	57,697	59,262
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	53,159	53,061
Customs revenue - - - -	11,613	11,279
Public debt - - - - -	Nil.	Nil.
	Tons	Tons
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	10,499,851	11,986,032
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared	8,541,340	10,123,006
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared	1,958,511	1,863,026
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared	173,406	171,143
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared	10,326,445	11,814,889
Value of total imports - - -	No returns available.	
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -		
Value of total exports - - -		
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom - - - - -		

CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX II.

RETURN of the NUMBER, TONNAGE, and CREWS of VESSELS entered and cleared from and to Foreign Countries *viâ* the Suez Canal during the year 1888.

Countries.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
India - -	199	335,198	11,437	83	194,734	11,649
Australia - -	61	168,051	9,106	25	74,414	3,787
Straits Settlements -	11	18,559	450	14	18,711	514
China - -	19	33,981	1,674	3	5,555	108
Japan - -	16	27,771	693	8	9,629	229
Cochin China -	3	3,944	79	—	—	—
Siam - -	9	12,476	266	—	—	—
Java - -	18	26,873	684	—	—	—
Manilla - -	10	13,918	361	—	—	—
Persia - -	3	2,953	82	1	1,059	28
Asiatic Turkey -	1	666	24	—	—	—
Aden - -	—	—	—	1	59	13
Perim - -	—	—	—	2	1,588	37
Ceylon - -	—	—	—	1	1,401	23
Hong Kong -	—	—	—	2	2,997	75
Massowah - -	—	—	—	2	1,362	42
Arabia - -	—	—	—	1	1,270	28
Total -	350	644,390	24,856	143	312,779	16,533

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 66.

GOLD COAST.

REPORTS ON GOLD MINES, 1889.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.

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16	Trinidad	1887
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	1887–8
57	Malta	1888
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,
63	Labuan	,,
64	Grenada	,,
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,

No. 66.

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No. 1.

Sir W. B. GRIFFITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Christiansborg Castle,
Accra, June 25, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report that I left Axim for the interior at 12.35 p.m. on the 24th January.

2. Reaching the Ankobra River at 1.25 p.m. my party and part of the luggage were embarked in three surf boats and two launches, which had been courteously placed at my disposal by Mr. Louis Wyatt, Managing Director of the Gie Appantoo Mine, and by Mr. C. J. Hervey, a director of the Essaman Mine, two of the surf boats being in tow, and the third being paddled after. A large number of carriers and hammock and canoe men had left Axim with a Hausa escort of 10 men by the overland route to join me at Buttaboe, higher up the river.

3. We left the Ankobra River mouth at 2.30 p.m. and steamed up to the Akankoo Mine, Stelling, where we arrived at 6.30 o'clock.

4. The Akankoo Mine is situated on the right bank of the river. The works have been built about a quarter of a mile from the river, with which they are connected by a light narrow gauge tramway. The manager's iron house is on a hill hard by, but the heat is oppressive, registering 85° Fahrenheit in the evening, and there being no breeze; the staff, however, were stated to enjoy fairly good health. There are 20 head of stamps worked by an engine of 18 nominal horse-power. Nine Europeans were employed there at the time of my visit, and a total of 204 of all hands. The quartz was stated to yield one ounce of gold to the ton. There were retorting and assay rooms, and a circular steam saw at work. The hill in which the reef is found has been worked by natives to a depth of 130 feet. I only entered the adit into the hill, and did not go down the shaft, as the ladder was not appropriate to a man of my age and build. When I was inspecting the works I asked a woman to take up and wash samples of earth selected at haphazard, and gold was found in each. The fault in the mine appears to be that it has not been efficiently managed hitherto. The manager, Mr. Ramsay, who hospitably entertained my party, was an energetic young American. The company now working the mine is styled the New Akankoo Mining Company, Limited. Its nominal capital is 150,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares, of which 98,938*l.* shares have been called

GOLD COAST. up, and debenture shares have been issued to the further amount of 21,600*l.*, or 120,538*l.* in all.

5. Having spent the 25th of January at Akankoo, we proceeded up the river at 9.20 a.m. next morning, in three surf boats with 14 paddles each, roofed over by bent sticks covered with native mats, over which again a double layer of the broad plantain leaf was lashed to protect us from the tropical sun, as owing to snags in the river steam launches drawing much water cannot go far above here in the dry season. A village called Apassu was passed at 10.12 a.m. on the left bank. At 12.30 we stopped for breakfast at a place on the right bank, a little inland of which is the village of Assapopion, the Chief of which offered me a hearty welcome. Starting again at 1.50 a big creek on the right bank, which was said to be used by smugglers, was passed at 2.10 p.m. At 3.14 p.m. a village called Brofassi was passed on the left bank. The heat was intense. We arrived at Inframangi, a small village on the left bank, at 4.20 p.m. and halted there, lodging in the native bamboo houses. We left Inframangi at 9 a.m. on the 27th January, reaching Tomento on the left bank, which is the village where the land route to Tarkwa branches off, at 10.26 a.m. We breakfasted here, and I had a short palaver with the Chief, who I found had recently had a land case in the court at Cape Coast, and evinced unwillingness to give any information as to the existence of the gold workings in his district. We left Tomento at 12.15, passing Sumaka, a village on the right bank, at 2 p.m. The boats grounded and had to be hauled over rocks at some rapids called Ouroosu at 2.15 p.m., and another rapid was passed shortly after. At 3.10 p.m. we stopped at a village on the left bank called Gi Kum Krum and rested for a short time, the heat being intolerable, while all the baggage was shifted from the surf boats into canoes to lighten the former as much as possible. There is a bamboo rest house here, belonging to the Gie Appantoo and Essaman Mining Companies. I had an interview with the Chief, Jukum by name, and directed him to assist the European miners as much as possible. Rapids were passed again at frequent intervals. Bonsaboi village was passed at 6.15, lying back from the Ankobra on the right bank. Here the river Bonsa flows into the Ankobra on the opposite side, a stream of about 30 yards wide at its mouth. Finally, at 7.40 p.m., we arrived at Buttaboe on the right bank, after hauling over more rapids in the dark, where we met the Houssa escort, which had proceeded overland. We were quartered in mud huts, which had been kindly arranged for us by Mr. F. S. Essien, a native gentleman, who is interested in the Essaman and other mines.

6. At Buttaboe the river journey ended for me. It was possible to have proceeded as far as Quowbadu Krum, the shipping place of the Gie Appantoo and Essaman Mines, in canoes, another day's journey, indeed in the rainy season the Gie Appantoo steam launch comes up as far as that place, but I was anxious to go over the land route from Buttaboe to Gie Appantoo myself and see as much of the district as I could. The distance

by the Ankobra from the sea to Buttaboe is about 90 miles, owing to the windings of the stream from which it derives its name, viz., Anku or manku, with the addition of cobra, a snake. The lower banks of the river are simply clothed with mangrove vegetation, and are but low; higher up however it passes the whole way through magnificent forest scenery, while large trees falling into the stream impede navigation when the water is low. When full it rises in places to a level with banks fully 20 feet high; these banks are not as high as those of the Volta at Akuse, but the two rivers possess many characteristics in common. The stream is about 50 yards wide at Buttaboe and about 30 yards wide at Quow Badu Krum, some 30 miles higher up.

7. Leaving Buttaboe at 9.5. a.m. the land track follows more or less, at some little distance, the general run of the stream. The track is rough and passes up and down hill over small streams and through forest. We halted for breakfast at 11 a.m. at a village called Mansi, under Chief Kwamina Gan. Starting again at 11.50 we reached the town of Aodwa at 12.30. This is the place of which Ango of Eastern Wassaw was formerly Chief and exercised powers under the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance. The stool is an important one, owing to the mining rents which attach to it; there are two rival claimants to it at present, named Essel Kudjo and Faibri, respectively, and I propose that Enemil Kwow on his resumption of the stool shall decide, according to country law, and with the District Commissioner as an assessor, between the conflicting claims. The Chiefs of the town gave me a friendly welcome, and I impressed upon them the necessity for improving their roads where possible. Quitting Aodwa at 1.30 p.m. we passed over five large hills where the path was in places a mere track, and reached Hly Kroom, a village belonging to Mr. Essien at 3.50. Pressing on again at 4 p.m. the Essaman village and mine were reached at 5.30 p.m., where I was met by Kofi Chay, the Chief of Himan, and the staff of the Essaman and Gie Appantoo Mines. After halting at Essaman for half an hour, we left at 6.5 p.m., and passing through the village of Prestear arrived at the Gie Appantoo Mine at 6.15 p.m.

8. Here I and my party were most hospitably entertained by Mr. Louis Wyatt, managing director, and we remained there for three days. Mr. Wyatt has had long acquaintance with this district, having originally held the appointment of an Assistant Inspector of Constabulary and District Commissioner of the Axim District, which however he ultimately resigned in order to enable him to devote himself to the study of the mining question. He has now established this mine near Prestear, which is the property of the Gie Appantoo Gold Mining Company, Limited, and the authorised capital of which amounts to 35,000*l.*, in shares of 1*l.* each. The experience and knowledge which has been applied to the efficient and yet economical construction and management of the works of this mine by Captain Wyatt and Mr. Swift, the manager, the latter of whom was formerly employed in the Tarkwa district, and has had the experience gained by the failure

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of mines in that district to guide him, has been considerable. It was evidenced in all parts of the property, the machinery is of the newest and most approved pattern, the work on which it is erected is most substantial and solid, and the plan upon which the stamps and the shafts have been respectively placed is admirable as regards economy of labour and time, while its location, only about 20 minutes walk from the River Ankobra, rendered the use of water transport for the conveyance of the machinery and heavy stores possible; without such transport these could hardly have been brought up so far into the interior. Furthermore, Axim may be reached from this district in 16 hours when the river is high. It was a curious sensation, and one which made me realise that there may yet be a great future in store for the West Coast of Africa, to see steam machinery at work in the heart of an African forest, a staff of 11 Europeans, including Dr. Martin, a young Edinburgh physician, systematically employed, making the most of every moment and showing such satisfactory results. I understand that the work was commenced in November 1887; by the middle of January 1888 the pumping engine turned on steam and the sinking of the shaft was immediately resumed. By the end of May 1888 the "Mona" or main shaft was sunk to a depth of 106 feet, and a level was commenced, which had been carried 202 feet to the west and 111 feet to the east, on the 29th January 1889, while a second shaft was commenced in August 1888, the level from which was within 18 feet of a junction with the main shaft levels at the time of my visit, and a third was also in course of excavation. The timbering work below ground was excellent. I descended the shaft myself so as to have an opportunity of seeing it and the levels, and the shafts themselves were driven along the run of the lode, which seemed to me to be average of at least five feet in breadth, from which a large quantity of quartz, said to be 1,000 tons, ready for crushing, had been collected and stacked close to the mill, when the stamps began working, which I have since heard was the case on the 7th May. There is a saw mill at work and plenty of magnificent timber around, which will provide fuel and the necessary timber for the works for years to come. The engine employed for the 12 head of stamps with which the mine was to start at first was of 50 nominal horse power, the boiler being six feet in diameter. The transport of the pieces of the engine bed, weighing $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons each, through a tropical forest was in itself a piece of great enterprise. There were 189 men employed on the mine when I was there, but this included the extra hands who were engaged in completing the works. I spent the 29th January in going over the Gie Appantoo Mine. No money has been wasted on unnecessary buildings here; the dwelling houses are situated on a hill commanding a full view of the works and in a healthy position. The health of the mining staff has, I was informed, been fairly good. They had at that date had only one death, and that not from normal climatic causes.

9. On the 30th and 31st January I paid two visits to the Essaman mine, which lies the other side of the Prestear ridge

from Gie Appantoo, over the same reef of quartz. This reef has, I understand, been worked away on the surface for miles into the interior. There are two old Dutch forts upon it, I am informed, showing how long the gold field has been known. It was, no doubt, this part of the country and the gold of Ashanti which gave to the Colony of old the name of the Guinea Coast. Crossing to Essaman I passed by some of the native workings. At one place some 20 women were washing surface earth for gold in wooden bowls, and obtaining a very fair return for their trouble. Where they were allowed to wash was, I was informed, now part of the Gie Appantoo concession. Further on I witnessed the interesting sight of some native shafts, about two feet square, timbered with light poles in some instances, untimbered in others, with windlasses worked occasionally with rope made of native lianes and fibre, and each with an air shaft alongside of it. One of the shafts was down to a depth of 120 feet, and, although the natives cannot yet drive levels from their shafts, and further progress is stopped when they strike water, they have in some instances interfered on the Essaman property with the underground workings of the concession obtained by that Company.

10. The Prestear mine, as it is called, of the Essaman Gold Mining Company, has a capital of 50,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares, fully paid up, with the exception of a final call of about 1*s.* 6*d.* a share. The present manager is Mr. George Macduff, who has had experience of mining elsewhere. The European staff employed there at the time of my visit was nine in number, and the total average number of native employés 215. The plan of the work is by tunnelling driven into the hill side. The first adit was made by Mr. Essien in 1885, and now meets the lode at 180 feet from the entrance. Levels have been driven along the lode 290 feet to the east and 220 feet to the west respectively. The lode averages seven feet in thickness, being in some places, I am informed, as much as 12 feet in width. 2,000 tons of quartz crushed from this level produced, Mr. Macduff informed me, a yield of 1,290 ounces of gold; but, he added, had the plan which is now being adopted been adhered to at first, the same amount of gold would have been obtained from half the weight of quartz, the best of the gold in the lode being confined to about four feet of the lode. This mine, I may observe, in common with others, seems to have suffered from its former management, but appears now to be in competent hands. Besides the Essien adit there is another, known as the boundary adit, which has been driven 459 feet to cut the lode, and the levels have been driven east and west to a total length of 140 feet. It is in this level that the mine has met the native shafts above referred to. It appeared to me that the shaft system pursued on the Gie Appantoo Mine was the more profitable one for adoption. A new house is being built of native materials on a hill hard by for the European staff; a healthy site, and one which commands a magnificent view. There are besides two other dwelling-houses for Europeans as well as engineering,

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carpenters, and blacksmiths shops, a saw-mill, and 12 head of stamps, 12 more head being in course of construction. This company holds further concessions, known as Quow Badoo and Broomasie, on the other side of the Ancobra.

11. On the afternoon of the 30th January I went over to Himan, the town of which Kofi Chay, who receives the rents of the Essaman and Gie Appantoo Mines, is Chief. It is a clean well-planned village, with trees planted in it. Kofi Chay is a pleasant, mild-mannered man, held in esteem by the European miners, but apparently lacking the old control over his people and young men, which is the burden of the complaints to me of most of the Chiefs of the Protectorate with whom I have come in contact. He is anxious to be furnished with powers under the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance, which is a matter which should receive attention so soon as a Resident Commissioner is appointed to the district.

12. I left Gie Appantoo for Tarkwa at 8.20 a.m. on the 1st February, arriving at the river at 8.40 a.m., where I was met by Kofi Chay, with whom I talked respecting his mining leases and a dispute he had with the Essaman Mining Company, but which, I understand, has since been amicably adjusted, until 11.5 a.m. Dropping down thence in a canoe to Quow Badoo Kroom, and there resuming our hammock journey again, we reached the village of Anamaboe at 12 noon, breakfasted there, left at 1.15 p.m., arrived at the village of Tepeëpi at 3.30 p.m., and at the village of Whinsu, where we passed the night, at 4.30 p.m. Leaving Whinsu at 8.45 a.m., the road led through forest, and the first village reached, after a mid-day halt for an hour, was Ateabo. The road was very bad from Whinsu to just before reaching Ateabo, the duty of cleaning it pertaining to the Aodwa vacant stool, the succession to which, as before mentioned, is in suspension at present. Leaving Ateabo at 5.50 p.m., I arrived at the village of Tarkwa, where I met with a very loyal reception, at 6.30 p.m., and reached Government House, Tarkwa, at 7 p.m. of the 2nd February.

13. This house is in very fair repair, considering that a Commissioner has not resided there since March 1886. On Sunday the 3rd February I rested here. On the 4th February I dealt with papers which I found awaiting me there, and on the 5th February I went to Teberibi. The Teberibi (trembling) Mine forms a part of the Swanzy's Estates and Gold Mining Company, Limited. It is situated two hours from Government House, Tarkwa, easy walking, in the direction of the Ancobra on the way to Boinsa. The road is a mere track through the valley, down which a small stream flows, cutting the road in some three or four places. Towards the end of the dry season the ground is very swampy in many places, while during the rains, I understand, the bed of the valley is deep in water. The village of Teberibi is perched on a very precipitous hill, some 500 feet in height, and this hill is really formed by the outcrop of the reef from which the gold is extracted. The mine, which is in the

shape of a cross, is entered by an adit 300 feet long, driven horizontally into the side of the hill about 100 feet from the top. 20 feet from the end of the adit the four arms of the cross meet. A level driven some 300 feet in a northerly direction forms the right arm of the cross. The reef here is of a soft, friable nature, and is easily worked with picks, there being no occasion to blast. At the end are extensive overhead "stopes," following the reef at an angle of 45° to the outcrop. The foot wall is of the same nature as the auriferous soil, and the hanging wall, which is more tenacious in character, is supported by pillars forming part of the reef, and round which the miners have worked. No timber is used in this mine for supports. Until recently some 200 men have been employed on these stopes, but the staff of the mine has been reduced in order to bring down the expenditure. The extracted lode falls by its own weight down to the level below, whence it is carried along a tramway out of the mine to a timber shoot about 20 yards from the adit. Once here, it is shot 200 feet down the side of the hill, and conveyed on a tramway some 1,900 feet to the mill. The southern arm of the cross is driven through very hard stone in the usual way for 70 feet, while the head is being worked with a view to striking the face of the hill, and thus shortening the distance to the mill. The character of the ore is micaceous, and the inherent gold very finely divided, and this fineness constitutes a difficulty in collecting the gold. The mill, which has an abundant supply of water, consists of the usual plant, engine, boiler, 12 head of stamps, collecting plates and furnace for reducing the gold amalgam. Owing to the soft quality of the lode, the stamps are very light compared with those used in the Akankoo, Essaman and Gie Appantoo Mines. The plates, too, are set at a sharper angle than usual, to allow the sand to pass off more freely, and the crushed stone after leaving the plates passes through a special contrivance designed by the manager, Mr. Gowans, to collect the residue of gold, which owing to its fineness may not have become amalgamated, and is thus saved from loss. A small portion of amalgam was retorted in my presence, and the scrap of gold enclosed herewith was retorted for presentation to your Lordship. The yield at this mine is poor, and, I understand, seldom reaches more than six dwts. to the ton. The company has no declared capital. The monthly local expenditure is 150*l.* There are only three proprietors. I understand that this mine, with the others belonging to the company, was in the market for sale a short time ago.

14. On the 6th February I visited the Tarkwa Mine of the Tarkwa and Abosso Gold Mining Company. This company has a capital of 100,000*l.*, in shares of 1*l.* each. It possesses 24 concessions, two of which only are now being worked. The Tarkwa Mine is about a mile and a half from the Government House. The residence of the European staff is on a hill overlooking the works in which the lode runs. There are here two batteries, of eight and 10 head of stamps respectively, worked by a 20 horse-power engine, a stone breaker, a steam sawmill, and about 2,680

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feet of tram lines. The monthly local expenditure of this and the Abosso Mine is 600*l.* The lode varies from four to six feet in thickness. The character of the auriferous deposit in the Tarkwa district is different from that of the Essaman and Gie Appantoo Mines. In the former the free gold is found in sedimentary rock with quartz crystals and in minute particles, in the latter it lies in much coarser pieces embedded in hard quartz. There are native shafts here which have been worked as far as it was possible for the natives to do with the appliances at their disposal. The village of Tarkwa has always been the resort of a floating population, who move from place to place as new surface workings for gold are discovered and opened up in different places. I should estimate the present number at about 1,000 souls. When the surface workings at the Tarkwa Mines were abandoned, the bulk of the native miners were gradually attracted elsewhere. Mr. J. Robinson, the manager of these mines, had but recently arrived at the time of my visit. He has been specially selected on account of his previous experience of Western Africa, and the knowledge which he has gained in the management of Kroo labour. Great obstacles have had to be encountered in the past, viz.: climate, absence of means of communication with the coast, solitude and difficulty of transport, while absence of the requisite knowledge of native character and physical strength, or of natural ingenuity and resource in overcoming the thousand and one little hindrances to progress which arise here, in themselves would serve to check the progress of the strongest and best-intentioned man, and tend towards over-indulgence in liquor, which has been the ruin of many a man in this Colony.

15. On the 7th February I left Tarkwa at 9.40 a.m., and arrived at the Abosso Mine, the property of the same company, at 12 noon, passing the deserted works of the Abontyakrom Mine, commenced by the defunct Gold Coast Mining Company, and funds for the further working of which not being forthcoming it was abandoned, and its machinery has been bought up for 120*l.* for the Teberibi Mine. The Abosso Mine is situated on the side of the Abocaw Hill, on the top of which has been built the manager's house, overlooking the works below. There are, besides, two other houses specially erected for the accommodation of the European staff. Fruit trees are behind this house, and it commands a beautiful view. Stores, a saw mill, a stone crusher, capable of crushing 10 tons of quartz per diem, and a blacksmith's shop, complete the equipment. There are 10 head of stamps, 9 of which are kept working at a time, calculated to crush 1 ton of quartz per hour, which, at 10 hours per day for 26 working days in the month, shows 260 tons, the results of which, at 1 oz. of gold per ton, would yield at least 936*l.* per month, or 11,232*l.* per annum. The hope of the present management, however, is to work down a shaft called the Bonnat Shaft, the quartz of which is expected to yield over 3 ounces per ton. This shaft is now full of water, for the raising of which Mr. Robinson is waiting for the necessary pumps. I learn that since my visit 198 pieces of ma-

chinery, engines, and boilers, have been sent out by the directors of the company; the machinery is of Chicago make, but put together and tested at Liverpool. This of itself is an earnest of the enterprise which is now being applied to their mines, and I hope that under the able management of Mr. Robinson, who has been armed with full powers, they may yet succeed. He, however, I learn, has been very ill himself, although remaining by his post and large responsibilities, and of three European miners who came out since my visit two have died within 24 hours of each other, but not from climatic effects. The total length of the tram lines on this mine amounts to 1,925 feet. The approach to it is by adit, but a shaft is being sunk to strike the levels at the south-western end, and thence to connect with the Bonnat Shaft above referred to. Very extensive stoping has taken place here. There has been much work done under the old French management, but now that it has passed into the hands of English directors much more may be expected. The late Monsieur Bonnat, who obtained the concessions for these mines and formed the direction for them in Paris, was, as your Lordship will be aware, the African explorer who was detained as a prisoner so long in Kumasi before the Ashanti war, and the pioneer of modern West African mining enterprise. M. Bonnat heard of this gold region while in Ashanti, and upon his release first went to Aowdwa prospecting, but failing to satisfy himself there came to Tarkwa in 1878, and purchased the concession held by the French company on the two mines of this company at the time of my visit. The experiment of the introduction of mules from Grand Canary was being tried by Mr. Robinson. There were eight Europeans employed.

16. Leaving Abosso at 5.25 p.m., we arrived at Aja Bippo, the oldest mine of the Wassaw Gold Coast Mining Company, Limited, the capital of which is 100,000*l.*, in shares of 1*l.* each. I was met with a most loyal reception by the employés and inhabitants of the village, numbering some 800 in all; a triumphal arch had been erected, hung with typical mining implements; a native band, with instruments provided by Mr. Gowans, the superintending engineer to the company, played "God save the Queen," and I was welcomed in the most kindly way by Mr. Sam, the agent, and his son, the manager and engineer of the mine. Both are native gentlemen, there being only one European employed on the mines connected with Aja Bippo, Cinnamon Bippo, Crockerville, and the Swanzy Estates Mining Company; viz., Mr. David Gowans, superintending engineer. Mr. T. B. F. Sam, the manager of the Aja Bippo Mine, is a young native gentleman, who has been educated at the Crystal Palace School of Engineering, and is, I should think, a most reliable man. I wish here to mention to your Lordship the exceeding attention and kindness which I and my staff received from Mr. Gowans and the Messrs. Sam while in the Tarkwa district, acting, no doubt, in addition to their natural kindness of heart, in accordance with what they knew to be the wishes of those chiefly concerned in this group of mines, Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy & Co.

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17. There are about 230 native labourers employed at Aja Bippo, about 30 of whom only are kroomen. The monthly local expenditure is about 350*l.* The extent of the concession is about 2,000 fathoms square. I was informed that, since February 1885, the mine has crushed 18,000 tons of ore, which has yielded some 25,000*l.* Until latterly the yield was at the rate of a half-ounce of gold to the ton, but latterly the proceeds have not been so good. There are four adits, and shafts as well. I went into three of the former on the 9th February; much stoping has been done. The lode is soft at the top, but it is hoped that by going deeper down with levels driven from the "New Adventure Shaft" to strike it deeper and get harder stone with quartz pebbles, from which a better return is expected. This shaft only yields 8 dwts. to the ton at present, but that of the "Royal Dawson tunnel" is stated to produce one ounce to the ton. The plant at the mine consists of two batteries of stamps of 12 heads each, driven by a 20-h.p. (nominal) engine, a Tangye's special pump, and there is a tramway running throughout the workings. The reduction process consists of a series of copper plates, the black sand from the latter of which is passed through two amalgamating barrels. The low grade ore is passed through the griddle or concentrator, by which process the heavier particles of ore are separated from the lighter, and which is driven by an 8-h.p. Belleville boiler and engine. The store rooms of the company are complete and in good order. They also employ a dispenser and have a well furnished dispensary. In the evening I had a friendly palaver with Enemil Kuma II., Chief of Abosso, who exercises powers under the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance, and endeavoured, at his request and on his making the usual complaints of lack of authority, to impress upon his people the necessity for their obedience to his lawful commands.

18. The next morning, on the 9th February, I left Aja Bippo at 8.30 a.m., reaching the Cinnamon Bippo and Swanzy's Estates Company's mines, which are adjacent to one another, at 9.18 a.m. The Cinnamon Bippo Company's Mine here is worked under the same management and system of accounts as the Aja Bippo Mine. No crushing had been done at the time of my visit to these mines, but, at the request of Messrs. Gowans and Sam, I turned steam on to the engine for the first time. I was informed that they were only waiting at the time of my visit for a piece of machinery to begin crushing. A system of tributing exists here by which the natives of the neighbouring village of Ebukroom Indjim are allowed to extract surface ore, half of which is supplied to the mine and half they crush and wash for themselves. The extent of the concession was stated to me to be 500 fathoms square. Three shafts have been sunk.* There is a gravitation battery and stamps all but ready to work, a mill house, and a blacksmith's shop. No house had been built for the manager at the time, but the site for one had been cleared. The mine at Crockerville is not now being worked.

* Plant purchased from abandoned mines at low rate.

19. Returning to Aja Bippo, we breakfasted there, and after visiting Enemil Kuma II., the Chief of Abosso, at his village, left there at 3.40 p.m., and arrived at Government House, Tarkwa, at 3.55 p.m. At Abosso, Enemil hurried after me, after I had started, and placing six plain gold rings, with three miniature nuggets set in them as a boss, in my hand requested me to accept them, one for myself and one for each of my staff, and to return one to him in token of mutual friendship. In the circumstances, I did not see that I was able to gracefully decline the gift, and I therefore accepted it. The rings have been valued by the Treasury at from 30*s.* to 40*s.* each, and a corresponding sum has been paid into the Treasury, which I propose should be expended in a return present to the Chief. I trust your Lordship will not object to my action in this matter.

20. I rested at Tarkwa and transacted business which was awaiting me there on Sunday and Monday, the 10th and 11th February, and on the 12th February I left at 7.30 a.m., on my return journey to the coast. Teberibi was reached at 9.30 a.m., and Apankrum village, on the Bonsa River, at 11.45. Leaving Apankrum at 1.30, we arrived at Tomento at 5.10 p.m., were embarked on the Ankobra in three surf boats by 5.45 p.m., and reached Inframangi, our old halting place, at 6.35 p.m. I was glad to have had the opportunity of going over the road between Tomento and Tarkwa, which is the main communication for the transport of stores of the latter place with Axim. After leaving Tarkwa it is a mere marshy track, impassable at places, I should judge, in the rainy season. Further on it becomes harder and better, but no road-making in the proper sense seems to have been attempted, and there are some steep hills to cross. This road is described in the Assistant Surveyor's report of the 8th August 1882, published in C. 3687/83, and Mr. Jones estimates the cost of putting it into proper condition to a width of seven feet at 1,200*l.*, adding that, even if this amount were expended, the road "would then be a difficult one to travel on account of "numerous hills, valleys, &c., and require regularly to be looked "after and repaired." I consider Mr. Jones' estimate moderate in the extreme. In any circumstances, to this cost would also certainly further have to be added the expense of the salary of a foreman of works whilst the road was in course of construction.

21. Leaving Inframangi at 7.42 a.m. on the 13th February, we found the launch of the New Akankoo Company steaming up to meet us at 10.30, and, getting in tow, reached the mine Stelling at 11.15. Here I was sorry to find that Mr. Ramsay, the manager, was suffering from blackwater fever, from the effects of which he unfortunately died a few days after at Axim. Starting from Akankoo at 12.55 with two surf boats in tow of the launch, we arrived at the mouth of the Ankobra at 4.55, and at Axim 6 p.m., having been absent for 21 days, 12 days of which were spent in actual travelling on river, over country of a very rough description, and seven days in inspection of tunnels, shafts, and buildings. I am thankful that my health and strength proved to be such as to enable me to see this district for myself, through which I

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understand no other Governor has passed, since the day of Sir Charles McCarthy at any rate.

22. My visit has impressed me with the following convictions:—1st. That the country is rich in gold, and that it is merely a matter of the necessary time and scientific application for that gold to pay well for extraction; 2nd. That earnest and well-considered attempts are now being made to secure success; 3rd. That the country once opened up and cultivated would yield rich returns to capital invested in the economic agriculture of any kind of tropical produce; but 4th. That the natives of the country cannot, unfortunately, be relied upon to supply the necessary labour, which must come either from the Kroo country or from China. My opinion of the auriferous properties of the district, of course, is an unprofessional one, and I merely write from what I saw on the surface; but from my own observation I can speak with certainty as to the vegetable capabilities of the country. Moreover, the woods are very fine. I despatch to the care of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, by this mail, boxes made of those woods containing specimens of gold-bearing stone from the following sources:—

1. Essaman Mining Company,
2. Akankoo Mine,
3. Swanzy Shaft of the Wassaw Mining Company, Limited, at Adja Bippoh,
4. Teberibe Mine,
5. Cinnamon Bippo Mine,
6. Swanzy Estates (Cinnamon Bippo Branch),
7. Tarkwa Mine,
8. Abosso Mine,
9. Essaman,
10. Gie Appantoo,

with which the managers have been good enough to furnish me. I venture to recommend that these boxes should be polished and exhibited with their contents at such public building—at the Imperial Institute perhaps—as your Lordship may be pleased to direct.

23. I have written to your Lordship separately with regard to the appointment of a resident Commissioner for the mining district. Since that date I have made arrangements for the establishment of a postal service with Tarkwa twice a week, *viâ* Chama, on which I hope it will be found possible also to engraft a parcel and specie post; and I have arranged for a similar postal service between Axim, the mines on the right bank of the Ankobra, and Tarkwa, to meet the wishes of the mining companies that such facilities should be afforded to them. I have further given directions for the clearing and maintenance of a road from Tarkwa to Chama.

24. I should not perhaps be justified in concluding this Despatch without referring to such of the failures of different mining companies as have come to my notice, viz.:—

(1.) The Guinea Coast Gold Mining Company, with a capital of 80,000*l*. This company first began to work a mine in

Appollonia, which proved a failure, no gold being found there. Then the Chief from whom this company leased their concession gave it a mine called Kinkham Bambo, near Axim; but this mine also failed and the enterprise was abandoned. In connexion with this subject, however, I may mention that another company has been recently formed to start another mine in Apollonia some little distance from the village of Essiamo on the sea-coast;

(2.) The Insaman-Kow Mine, with a capital of 80,000*l.*, the machinery and house of which were imported, never erected, and are now said to be lying in the bush;

(3.) The Guinea Coast Mining Company, with a capital of 60,000*l.*, commenced in an unhealthy locality, but five white men having died it was abandoned, although the mine yielded gold;

(4.) The Effuenta Company, with a capital of 70,000*l.*, situated near Tarkwa, the lease of the land of which has, I understand, been bought for 60*l.* by Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy;

(5.) The Tamsu Company at Mleffusu and Mlwusu, with a capital of 100,000*l.*;

(6.) The Gold Coast Mining Company at Abontyakoon, near Tarkwa, with a capital of 65,000*l.*; and

(7.) The Wassaw and Ahanta Gold Mines Syndicate, Limited, with a capital of 10,000*l.*

25. I have no means of ascertaining how much of the capital of these different companies was ever paid up, but added together it represents a nominal sum of 465,000*l.*, irrespective of the capital embarked in the mines which are now working, which nominally amounts to 510,000*l.*; and I should further mention that the exports of gold from the mines during the past year amounted, as shown by the Axim Customs returns, to 7,369*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* only in value, while for the first quarter of the current year they have equalled 5,127*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, thus showing a decided improvement in recent returns, which should, I think, be ascribed, partly at least, to increased efficiency of management. The above figures do not, moreover, include the exports from Adjah Bippo or the Swanzy Estates Company, which, I understand, are shipped from Cape Coast. I learn, however, that no mine has as yet paid a dividend of normal profit, although the Ahanta Syndicate has done so from sale of property.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 2.

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT (GOLD COAST) to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Victoriaborg,
Accra, July 5, 1889.

MY LORD,

IN continuation of the Governor's Despatch of the 25th ultimo, it may be of interest to your Lordship to have before you the enclosed copy of a report by Mr. Eyre, who was sent down last year to examine and report upon the auriferous properties of the Winnebah District.

2. It would appear from Mr. Eyre's report that there is latent gold undeveloped in this district, although I learn from the Commissioner, Mr. Cleaver, that no shipments of it appear to have been made in 1888. Mr. Cleaver further informs me that prospecting for gold is now being carried on in Western Akim.

3. I think it would be well that Mr. Eyre, who is about to proceed to England on leave, should be instructed to apply himself to the study of the characteristics of gold-producing stones and elementary geology at the School of Mines or elsewhere, with a view to the Government being able to turn the knowledge which he may thus acquire to useful account on his return to the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. M. HODGSON,
Acting Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.

Mr. EYRE to the GOVERNOR.

Christiansborg Castle,
September 1, 1888.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to report, as follows, on the result of the expedition upon which I was sent, namely, to ascertain the probable extent and richness of the auriferous country in the Winnebah District, and to note the geological formation in that part.

I left Christiansborg about 4 a.m. on Monday the 23rd of July 1888, and proceeded by land to Winnebah, where I arrived about 8 p.m. that night, and stopped with the District Commissioner, Mr. Shand.

As your Excellency had directed me, I informed Mr. Shand of my mission, and requested him to render me what assistance he could, either from his personal knowledge of the locality or by persuading the Native Chiefs to point out to me the spots where they and their forefathers had procured gold by washing.

Mr. Shand, not having any personal knowledge of the auriferous localities in the district, suggested sending for King "Cudjoe Inkoom," the Head King of the Winnebah District, who, he felt sure, would assist me if possible. So King Cudjoe Inkoom was sent for the next day, but being two days' journey inland did not arrive until the 28th July.

On the 24th, being rather knocked up after the long overland journey of the preceding day, I did not do very much. I discussed the matter with Mr. Shand, and arranged with him to make the Fort my head-quarters for the present, and only to explore the immediate neighbourhood inland of Winnebah, and the rivers, pending the arrival of King Cudjoe Inkoom.

In the afternoon I examined the rocks cropping out along the sea-coast immediately in front of Winnebah, and extending up the coast for about a quarter of a mile. These rocks are principally ironstone with quartz veins running through them, though here and there the quartz reef itself also crops out. The quartz varies very much in colour, from dirty red to pure crystal and opaque white, but does not show any indication of being auriferous, at least not at the surface, though I believe it probable that below the surface there are auriferous veins running through the quartz, especially the quartz veins running through the ironstone; but as I had no tools with with me sufficiently powerful for breaking through the surface stone, I was unable to ascertain the fact.

The land immediately around Winnebah is of a light sandy nature, with either clay, dark-coloured earth, or quartz and ironstone below it. The quartz crops out every here and there, and is principally of a dirty red colour; but white opaque quartz and clear crystal quartz also crop up at times, but none of them show any traces of gold, at least not at the surface.

The natives state that they obtain gold here near the sea-beach by washing, after the rains, dirt taken from the tracks of the waterflows. They sink holes till they arrive at a black sand (almost pure iron ore) mixed with rubble and small broken quartz, and lying generally on a clay bottom. By reducing this dirt containing the black sand by washing, until only the black sand and the gold dust are left, they obtain by degrees a quantity of this black sand mixed with gold dust. This they dry in the sun and then get rid of the sand by fanning, and so obtain the pure gold. The quantity of gold dust obtainable by this means in a single day is generally very small, though the natives state that at times they obtain nuggets of varying sizes, but more frequently small particles of gold the size of grains of sand.

On the 25th I persuaded Mr. Shand to accompany me, and we left Winnebah about 7 a.m., and proceeded by land to a town called "Manpon," in the neighbourhood of which I had heard there was gold. Manpon is situated about nine miles directly inland from Winnebah, and close to the bank of the Ayensu River, and about 30 miles or more up that river. I had hoped on arriving at "Manpon" to procure a canoe and proceed up the river and

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The nature of the land between Manpon and Winnebah is similar to that immediately around Winnebah, and which has already been described. The bed of the Ayensu River, so far as we were able to follow it, was muddy, with no sign of stone of any kind cropping out, though I hear from the natives that there are two spots further down the river where there are rapids and where the quartz reef crops out; but I was unable to reach these rapids.

On the 26th I left Winnebah at about 7 a.m., and proceeded to the mouth of the Ayensu River, whither I had already ordered a canoe to precede me. On arriving at the river I found the canoe already there, so proceeded at once up the river and followed its course for about 15 miles, but did not reach the rapids. The canoe being a large and heavy one, and the stream very rapid, our progress up stream was very slow, and towards the latter part of the journey rather intricate, as we began to come across snags and fallen trees. About 4 p.m. we started on our return journey, and came down the stream a good deal quicker than we had gone up, and finally arrived at Winnebah about 7.30 p.m., after another unsuccessful day, as no outcrop of rock of any kind had been met with, and the banks on either side were composed of mud the whole way. Where there were shoals the bed of the river was composed of gravel, and opposite to some of the bends where the current was strong, banks of white silicate sand (probably quartz) had been thrown up. I heard from the natives afterwards that when we turned to come back we had been within a mile or two of the first rapids and quartz outcrop, and I was, unfortunately, unable subsequently to return and visit these rapids for want of time.

July 27th. I left Winnebah about 6.30 a.m. this morning and proceeded to the town of Pomadi, about eight miles from Winnebah, and situated near the foot of a small range of hills lying at the back of Winnebah. All this neighbourhood is worked by the natives for gold. At Pomadi I got a guide to take me to the

hills lying at the back, and to show me where the natives were in the habit of washing for gold. About three miles from Pomadi we came to a dry watercourse, which the guide pointed out as being one of the chief spots where they obtained gold. The whole of the bed of the stream was composed of fragments of quartz and ironstone with quartz veins through it, the stones varying in size from large boulders several tons weight down to small broken quartz the size of gravel. I examined very many of these stones, but I could not find any trace of gold in them, and at the time was unable to follow the stream up to its source for want of time, and was subsequently unable to return. After passing this watercourse we proceeded up to nearly the top of one of the highest points of the range of hills I have before mentioned, but could not get any further on account of the dense scrub on the top. All the slope of the range was strewn with fragments of quartz and ironstone, and the guide said that they and their forefathers obtained gold almost anywhere along the foot of this range of hills by sinking holes and washing as previously described, and that sometimes nuggets were found. One nugget of fabulous size is said to have been found in the bed of the dry watercourse already mentioned. The natives would not, however, show me any of the holes at which they were still working, and the disused ones could not be seen for the scrub and grass that had grown over them. However, from the nature of the country, and the evident fact that the natives do obtain gold here, I should say that if the base of this range of hills was properly prospected that in all probability alluvial deposits bearing gold in payable quantities would be found, and the reef from which it comes subsequently be traced. Wherever there is a flow of water on the hill side during the rainy season the quartz reef has been laid bare in places, and though I did not find stone bearing gold it must nevertheless be there, and to properly prospect a large tract of land like that would require more time than I had at my disposal. On my return I explored the bed of the dry watercourse already mentioned for about a mile up stream, but had no time to go further, and was unable subsequently to return. I got back to Winnebah at about 7.30 p.m., feeling satisfied that there was gold in the localities I had visited, though I had not had time enough at my disposal to trace out its source.

July 28th. It rained all day so I was unable to go anywhere. King Ghartey of Winnebah came to see me, and informed me that he could show me several places where he and his people obtained gold; but he demanded a hammock and hammock men and travelling allowance, and I very soon came to the conclusion that he was a fraud.

Later on in the day King "Cudjoe Inkoom" arrived, and I had a long talk with him, and explained to him that it was for the good of his people that I had been sent down to examine his country and ascertain its auriferous qualities. That if there were indications of plenty of gold being there, and white men were

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induced to come out to work it, that it would be a good thing for the district, and would very much enrich himself and his people. He seemed thoroughly to understand the point, and promised to assist me; but wanted a week to collect the various Chiefs of his district together and talk to them on the subject, so as to make them understand for what purpose I had come, and that it would be to their own advantage to assist me and show me the spots where they obtained gold themselves.

I had to inform him that I could not spare time to wait so long, and suggested that all I required was one of his men who knew the country and could influence the local Chiefs to assist me as we went along, and that as I was going down to examine the Appam District on Monday the 30th, that it would be advisable that his man should join me there. This he arranged should be done and then departed.

Monday, July 30th. I had intended examining the auriferous qualities of the Appam District, but on Saturday night I received instructions to proceed as early as possible to Murford and investigate certain charges made against one of the Government officials, so I left Winnebah about 6 a.m. and proceeded to Appam, where I left my things, and then went on to Murford and held an inquiry into the truth of charges made against the Government official, and this occupied me all day, and I only got back to Appam about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Tuesday the 31st I left Appam about 7 a.m. this morning in company with Mr. Williams, the native proprietor of the hotel, and who wanted to show me various spots where he himself had obtained gold. After proceeding about three miles along the Akim road we came to the bed of a then almost dry watercourse. Here Mr. Williams showed me various holes along the track of the stream, and about 15 to 20 feet from it, where the natives had been or were still procuring gold by washing. I took away some of the earth from one of these holes, and on our return had it washed, and obtained a few specks of fine gold dust mixed with the fine black sand already mentioned. After examining the holes and procuring some of the dirt, Mr. Williams took me to several places where the quartz reef crops out, and where he had tried to sink holes through it to ascertain whether there was gold or not in the lower strata. From one of these holes Mr. Williams obtained a small nugget lying in the soil in a crevice between two layers of quartz, and this was all Mr. Williams obtained working through the quartz. Mr. Williams showed me three separate places where he had tried sinking through the quartz reef, sometimes to a depth of 10 feet. None of the stone, however, from these holes showed any trace whatever of being auriferous.

Mr. Williams then took me to where an outcrop of ironstone veined with quartz occurs, and where he had sunk a hole about 10 feet deep through the ironstone. Here, wherever the quartz veins traverse the ironstone, specks of gold are most distinctly visible even to the naked eye, and even through the ironstone itself specks of gold are to be seen, but very few. Also another

metal is traceable in this stone, and resembling silver in colour, but very brittle, and with which I am not acquainted. The veins of auriferous quartz are very small, and divide the ironstone up into layers varying very much in their thickness from two feet to only a few inches.

This ironstone is almost pure iron ore, and very hard to break, and does not occur in a continuous reef but in detached boulders, and small reefs dispersed through the quartz reef, which here seems to be very extensive, but does not very often crop out. I should think it very probable that there is a rich lode running through the quartz reef here, near where the outcrop of ironstone occurs, and at a considerable depth from the surface. It would probably take a very considerable time, however, to ascertain this, as the quartz reef would have to be broken through to a considerable depth, and probably in several spots before striking the right one. I spent all day examining the locality around where I had obtained the auriferous specimens, but without obtaining any further results, none of the stone elsewhere showing any trace of gold whatever. So towards evening, after collecting a few more specimens of the auriferous stone, I returned with Mr. Williams to the hotel.

August 1st. This morning I was employed writing out and despatching my report upon the charges brought against the Government official. At about 11 a.m. I started on my tracks of the day before, intending to follow up the watercourse if possible to its source, but found this impossible, as it lost itself in numerous small runs in the scrub; so I returned to what seemed a suitable bend in one of the branches of the stream and sunk a hole about 5 feet deep and washed some of the earth, but obtained no result; probably I was working on the wrong branch of the stream or had not sunk deep enough, but it was getting late and I could not go on longer then with the work. I arrived back at the hotel about 7 o'clock after an unsuccessful day.

August 2nd. I left Appam about 7 a.m. for Manquadi, where King Cudjoe Inkoom's guide awaited me. I stopped on the way at the small town of Moeyano, where there are very extensive gold diggings, one hole being about 20 yards in diameter and 8 or 9 feet deep and full of water; all around this central excavation are innumerable smaller holes, all of which have been sunk for gold. I tried dirt from several of these smaller holes, and in each case obtained a few specks of fine gold dust, and also one or two larger particles the size of fine sand. Here the natives informed me nuggets are by no means unfrequent, and that grains of gold like sand are common. This spot is by far the best I have examined yet for alluvial working, and seems from all accounts of the natives to be fairly rich in places.

The formation here is perfectly different to any other that I have seen in the district, the spot where all these gold holes are having all the appearance of having at one time formed the bed of some large river, and then subsequently to have been upheaved

Gold Coast.

by volcanic action to a depth of 10 feet or so; it consists of stratified deposits of broken quartz and other stones, all rounded by the action of water and mixed with grit and loam and sand, and lying on a clay bottom. Inland of this formation and to seaward also the quartz reef crops out, but the gold found here cannot have come from these reefs as they at present exist, for what I take to be the bed of some former river lies higher than the reefs do, and therefore I conclude that the alluvial deposit of gold found here has been brought from a very considerable distance by the action of water. The native gold holes here are many of them sunk to a considerable depth till they reach the clay bottom, on which the gold rests. Gold washing seems to be very extensively carried on here, the holes dug by the natives lying in every direction. These holes are all sunk at hazard, and consequently are no guide to the direction taken by the gold. I was unable to stop longer here, as I had arranged to meet my guide at Manquadi and visit the native gold holes there. So I pushed on, intending to return in a couple of days and spend a week or 10 days in thoroughly exploring this neighbourhood. This formation continues from the town of Moeyano up to the town of Manquadi, and is about a quarter of a mile in width, and I believe that if this spot was properly prospected, and a chain of holes sunk right across its width in two or three different places, in all probability a rich alluvial deposit would sooner or later be found, and the direction taken by the gold definitely determined.

On arriving at "Manquadi" I met my guide, Mr. Aikins by name, and after he had had a rather prolonged palaver with the people of the town we started to visit some of the gold holes worked by the natives. Here the formation is similar to that at "Moeyano," and the holes sunk by the natives are almost as numerous. I obtained a few specks of gold by washing the dirt from one or two of the holes, and then as it was getting late we returned to Manquadi, where I had intended to sleep. Soon after my arrival in Manquadi a policeman made his appearance with a bundle of telegrams, instructing me to proceed to Winnebah and take over the district from Mr. Shand, the District Commissioner, who was wanted at Accra. This, of course, put an end to my plans with regard to prospecting for the present, and I had no opportunity subsequently of renewing my search.

In conclusion I will add that I believe there is a considerable quantity of gold in the district, and that in places it would probably pay Europeans to work it; but until the direction it takes has been fully determined, and the richness of the deposits practically ascertained, nothing is likely to come of it.

To explore and properly prospect the alluvial auriferous deposits in the Winnebah District, and to practically examine only a few of the various quartz reefs, would take an expert a year or probably two years' steady labour, and would also come rather expensive for hire of workmen and purchase of implements. Although from my own personal observations I believe that gold

in payable quantities would very probably be found, yet I am not sufficient of an expert to too forcibly express my opinion and to advise what might lead only to disappointment and useless expense.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY EYRE.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

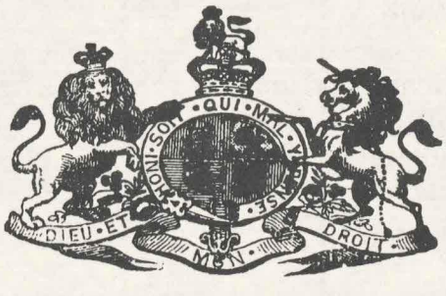
No. 64.

GRENADA
(WINDWARD ISLANDS).

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 15 [C.—5249–12 of 1888].)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.



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18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
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22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
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36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
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39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,
63	Labuan	,,

No. 64.

GRENADA
(WINDWARD ISLANDS).

[In continuation of [C.—5249-12] of 1888; Colonial Possessions Report No. 15.]

Sir W. J. SENDALL to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Grenada, July 19, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Grenada for the past year, together with a very comprehensive report thereon, drawn up by Mr. Edward Drayton, the acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) WALTER J. SENDALL.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT on GRENADA BLUE BOOK for 1888.

SIR, Grenada, July 4, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1888, with the following report thereon.

Taxes, &c.

2. On 1st January 1888 a radical change in the excise system of the Colony came into operation. The license on stills was increased from 2*l.* for a still of any size to 4*l.* for stills not exceeding 100 gallons, with one pound for every additional 25 gallons or fractional part thereof. The stills were provided with locked caps, so as to ensure that distillation could take place only in the presence of an excise officer, and the duty on rum was reduced from 5*s.* on the proof gallon (and so on for each greater or less degree of strength) to 4*s.* on the liquid gallon, whatever its strength. At the same time the import duty on gin and rum was fixed at 5*s.*, and on brandy and whiskey at 6*s.*, the proof gallon. The effect of these changes on the transactions of the year was to increase the revenue from excise duty and still licenses from 5,284*l.* in 1887 to 8,155*l.* in 1888, while the quantity of rum imported decreased from 9,558 gallons in 1887 to 2,790 gallons in 1888. The loss to the Colony in import duty, about 2,198*l.*, was more than counterbalanced by the increase of 2,871*l.* in excise revenue, and by the revival of an industry which the former conditions had almost suppressed.

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GRENADA.

3. Concurrently with these alterations a revision of the liquor licenses was effected, by which the rates charged were considerably increased, and other descriptions of license added. Satisfactory results attended this change also, the revenue received being 3,193*l.* against 1,230*l.* in the preceding year.

4. By an Ordinance dated 4th April 1888 the import duty on molasses was reduced from 3*d.* to 1*d.* per gallon, with the object of further encouraging the manufacture of rum; 28,648 gallons were imported, in consequence, as compared with 3,404 in 1887, and the revenue from import duty on this item also increased from 43*l.* to 123*l.*

5. The same Ordinance exempted from payment of import dues all articles specially imported for the use of any place of worship.

6. The collection of export duties was suspended again this year. A law had been passed in 1887 reimposing a reduced scale of these dues, but this was repealed on 18th January 1888 by direction of the Secretary of State.

Revenue.

	£
7. The revenue in 1888 was - - -	51,378
In 1887 it was - - - -	46,743
Showing an increase in 1888 of -	4,635

8. The subjoined table exhibits a comparison of the several heads of revenue in the two years:—

Head of Revenue.	1888.	1887.	Increase in 1888.	Decrease in 1888.
	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	27,138	27,550	—	412
Excise - - - -	7,775	5,224	2,551	—
Licenses - - - -	4,839	2,266	2,573	—
Rates and taxes - - -	4,757	4,582	175	—
Stamps - - - -	3,148	2,952	196	—
Fees - - - -	—	10	—	10
Fines and forfeitures - -	761	744	17	—
Rents - - - -	192	324	—	132
Postage - - - -	712	531	181	—
Sales - - - -	400	236	164	—
Interest - - - -	239	227	12	—
Reimbursements - - -	1,346	1,949	—	603
Miscellaneous - - -	26	13	13	—
Refunds - - - -	45	135	—	90
Totals - -	51,378	46,743	5,882	1,247
	46,743	—	1,247	—
Increase in 1888 - -	4,635	—	4,635	—

9. The increase in the yield of excise and licenses is explained above, and the other items which show an increase require no comment, with the exception of stamp duty, which is chiefly due to the fee imposed at the commencement of the year on sales of real property, or interest therein, by the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

The decrease of 412*l.* in customs' revenue is not to be attributed to any diminution of trade, but to the change in the excise system alluded to above and to the alteration of certain items of the tariff effected late in 1887. The value of imports in 1888 was in reality 162,438*l.* against 143,185*l.* in 1887, proving beyond a doubt that the trade of the Colony continues to increase.

Under "reimbursements" appears a decrease of 603*l.*, due to the fact that the revenue for 1887 contains certain contributions for maintenance of the lunatics of other islands of the Government which were in arrear.

Expenditure.

	£
10. The expenditure in 1888 was - -	47,422
In 1887 it was - - - -	44,803
Showing an increase in 1888 of -	2,619

The following table compares the expenditure of the two years under its several heads:—

Head of Expenditure.	1888.	1887.	Increase in 1888.	Decrease in 1888.
	£	£	£	£
Establishments - - - -	19,624	19,281	343	—
Governor's Department - -	335	784	—	449
Secretariat - - - -	415	394	21	—
Treasury and Customs - - -	923	600	323	—
Post Office - - -	1,309	966	343	—
Works department - - -	342	404	—	62
Botanic Garden - - -	247	242	5	—
Savings bank - - - -	123	76	47	—
Judicial - - - -	466	494	—	28
Medical - - - -	385	411	—	26
Hospitals and asylums - - -	3,773	4,010	—	237
Police - - - - -	655	893	—	238
Prisons - - - -	505	509	—	4

GRENADA.

Head of Expenditure.	1888.	1887.	Increase in 1888.	Decrease in 1888.
	£	£	£	£
Education - - - -	3,570	3,003	567	—
Pensions - - - -	842	918	—	76
Rents - - - -	364	375	—	11
Subsidies and grants - - -	1,634	2,102	—	468
Roads and bridges - - -	5,002	4,448	554	—
Works and buildings - - -	2,852	1,912	940	—
Interest and sinking fund - -	1,500	1,000	500	—
Drawbacks and refunds - -	110	99	11	—
Miscellaneous - - - -	2,446	1,202	1,244	—
Loans to parochial boards - -	—	680	—	680
Totals - -	47,422	44,803	4,898	2,279
	44,803	—	2,279	—
Net increase in 1888 - -	2,619	—	2,619	—

11. The increase under "establishments" is due to certain changes in the Treasury department, to additions to the police force and the hospital staff, to the transfer to prison establishment of the pay of some of the officers previously paid under other heads, and to the payment in 1888 of certain arrears for 1887.

The increase in "treasury and customs" is attributable to the introduction of the new excise system, which involved the purchase and affixing of locked caps to all the stills, the purchase of new instruments, and extra pay to police constables employed as excise officers.

Under "post office" there is an increase caused by the payment in 1888 of two annual contributions to the Postal Union.

"Education" exhibits an increase of 567*l.*, due to the satisfactory extension of primary education in the Colony.

"Roads and bridges" also shows increased expenditure as compared with 1887 in consequence of the extensive work performed during the year.

Under "works and buildings" appears an increase of 940*l.* caused by a special vote taken for repair and alteration of the police barracks.

"Interest and sinking fund" was 500*l.* more than in 1887, owing to larger issue of debentures under the Public Works Loan Ordinances.

The increase in "miscellaneous" is chiefly due to the expenditure of 1,174*l.* in 1888 on the successful attempt to prevent the introduction of small-pox from Martinique.

Of the decreases, that under "Governor's department" is due to the small expenditure on furniture for Government House as compared with 1887, when the house was partly refurnished.

Under "hospitals and asylums" there is a decrease caused by less expenditure at the Colony and Yaws hospitals in 1888.

In "police" there is also a decrease chiefly under the sub-heads of "uniforms" and "supplies to stations."

"Subsidies and grants" show a decrease of 468*l.* in consequence of a vote in 1887 for purchase of certain premises known as the "Aberdeen buildings" having been charged to this head in that year.

There were no loans to parochial boards in 1888, which explains the decrease of 680*l.* under that item.

Special Funds.

12. The above figures do not include certain moneys set aside for special objects and not accounted for in the general revenue of the Colony. A statement of the revenue and expenditure of these funds in 1888 is appended :—

Name of Fund.	Revenue in 1888.	Expenditure in 1888.
	£	£
Immigration fund - - - -	3,453	4,700
Interest and sinking fund, Public Works Loan -	2,572	1,055
Fire insurance fund - - - -	926	Nil.
Governor-in-chief's office fund - - -	94	44
Telephone fund - - - - -	109	148

13. The expenditure of the immigration fund exceeded the revenue by 1,247*l.*, owing to the heavy outlay on return passages and bounties of certain time-expired immigrants, 3,331*l.*, and the payment of the last instalment of a loan of 10,000*l.* raised in 1878. This necessitated the sale of 3,300*l.* in Exchequer bonds belonging to the fund, the proceeds of which have been brought to credit in 1889.

The telephone fund was 39*l.* in debt at the close of the year. This fund is made up of fees received by the police for transmission of messages to and from the out districts; the line was established for the benefit of the public, and was not expected to be remunerative.

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Assets and Liabilities.

14. On 31st December 1888 the Colonial assets exceeded the liabilities by 10,605*l.*; this is, of course, exclusive of the amount due to bondholders under the Public Works Loan, for the extinction of which special provision is made, and of a balance of 1,000*l.* on a loan raised in 1879 for waterworks in St. George's, the repayment of which in 20 years the Colony has guaranteed.

The available cash balance to credit of general revenue on the above date was 8,748*l.*

Parochial Revenue and Expenditure.

15. There is a board in each of the six parishes of Grenada and in the island of Carriacou charged with the management of the towns, and (up to the end of 1888) of the public by-ways. The revenue for these purposes is raised and expended by their authority. It is chiefly derived from rates on the assessed annual rental of houses within the town boundaries, and, in the case of St. George's and Grenville, from shipping dues.

16. These boards are partly nominated by the Governor and partly elected by the ratepayers; the qualifications for an elected member are residence in the Colony for at least two years, and possession either in his own right or that of his wife of freehold property of the annual value of not less than 25*l.* or payment of an annual rental of not less than 40*l.*

17. The executive and accounting officers of the boards are called wardens; they are appointed by the boards, but their salaries are fixed by the Governor in Council.

18. A table is appended showing the revenue raised by each board in the year October 1887—September 1888, and their expenditure in the same period:—

Parishes.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	Balances at 30th September 1887.	Receipts in 1887-88.	Total.	Expenditure in 1887-88.	Balance in hand at 30th September 1888.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
St. George - -	85 5 1	2,080 5 8	2,165 10 9	1,939 10 8	226 0 1	2,165 10 9
St. David - -	12 15 11	221 4 2	234 0 1	227 4 8	6 15 5	234 0 1
St. Andrew - -	605 2 4	1,229 14 9	1,834 17 1	1,635 17 5	198 19 8	1,834 17 1
St. Patrick - -	—	377 8 4	377 8 4	428 10 8	—	428 10 8
St. Mark - -	159 4 9	430 16 7	590 1 4	501 8 2	88 13 2	590 1 4
St. John - -	136 6 11	473 12 7	609 19 6	598 5 5	11 14 1	609 19 6
Carriacou - -	169 4 8	264 2 5	433 7 1	251 19 7	181 7 6	433 7 1
Totals -	1,167 19 8	5,077 4 6	6,245 4 2	5,582 16 7	713 9 11	6,296 6 6

The balance shown for the parish of St. Andrew's at 30th September 1887 includes a loan from Government of 150*l.*

19. The total indebtedness of the boards to the Government at end of 1888 was 1,425*l.*, besides which the St. George's Board is responsible for the payment of 1,000*l.* balance of the loan raised in 1879 for waterworks, referred to in paragraph 14.

20. As the parochial boards at the end of 1888 had only been in existence for two years it is premature to speak with authority as to their being a success or otherwise; even their constitution was not definitely settled at that date, for an Ordinance reducing the number of members and effecting other changes was then on the eve of becoming law. This much, however, can be confidently asserted, that notwithstanding all drawbacks the general tendency of their work has been in the right direction, and that they represent a factor in the Government of the Colony which it would be difficult to supply by other machinery.

Public Debt.

21. At the close of 1888 the public debt of the Colony was 29,475*l.*, being the amount raised under borrowing powers to the extent of 50,000*l.* conferred on the Government in 1885 for carrying out public works. This loan is repayable by annual drawings of debentures, and a fund is kept up by yearly votes from general revenue to provide for payment of these and of interest.

22. The Colony is also nominally responsible for a loan of 1,000*l.* raised in 1879 for purposes of the St. George's water supply, repayable in 1899, but the parochial board of that town is in reality charged with the payment of both interest and principal.

Public Works.

23. The total expenditure on works and buildings during the year was 5,018*l.*, of which 2,852*l.* was from general revenue, and 2,166*l.* from loan funds.

24. General repairs were effected at the Lunatic and Poor Asylums, the Colony Hospital, the premises rented to the telegraph company for an office, and the Post Office, and in some cases alterations were made in the internal arrangement of the buildings, securing great improvements in appearance and usefulness.

25. The police barracks at Fort George were thoroughly altered and repaired so that excellent accommodation is now provided for the force; cells for prisoners were also constructed at the guard-room, and an office fitted up for the chief of police.

26. At the registrar's office the walls and roof were raised with the object of securing better ventilation, and the building was thoroughly repaired, part of the lower story being converted into a police guard-room, to which the main guard was removed as being a more central and commanding position than the place formerly used for this purpose.

GRENADA.

27. The erection of a new entrance and *porte cochère* at Government House, begun in 1887, was completed, adding considerably to the appearance and comfort of the building.

28. The preliminary survey for the introduction of an additional supply of water to the town of St. George's by way of the districts of St. Paul's and Richmond Hill was completed, and the work is being carried out in the present year, 1889. This important work, besides securing a much-needed supply of water for these districts, will provide in this respect for the Government institutions on Richmond Hill, the Botanical Garden at its foot, and Government House, and will also reinforce the water supply of the town of St. George, which for some time past has not been sufficient for the requirements of its inhabitants.

Roads.

29. The total expenditure on roads and bridges in 1888 was 7,439*l.*, of which 5,002*l.* was paid by general revenue and 2,437*l.* by the Public Works Loan.

30. The reconstruction and metalling of the road across the Island from St. George's to Grenville, known as the Grand Etang Road, was completed, the whole work costing 3,033*l.* This highway, connecting as it does the two chief centres of business in the Colony, is of great importance to its welfare, particularly as Grenville is difficult of access by sea. It is now in such good order that, although the gradient is high, one or two successful attempts to drive across it have been made.

31. The reconstruction of another important road across the Island was proceeded with and nearly finished. This highway, called the Belvedere Road, connects the towns on the western seaboard with Grenville on the east, and passes through some of the richest land in the island. The work done on it up to end of 1888 cost 4,874*l.*, including a large number of bridges and culverts which were necessary.

32. At a place on the western sea-coast, known as La Potarie, where the road was washed by the sea, an extension of the sea wall was effected at a cost of 278*l.*

33. Besides these works of reconstruction, a sum of 4,717*l.* was spent upon the usual repairs and maintenance of the public highways, which at the end of the year were in a most satisfactory condition. Good roads are of paramount importance to Grenada, and the systematic work in this direction, begun in 1886 under the present administration, is rapidly securing them. At the date of this report their condition is a credit to the Colony, for with the beginning of 1889 a further development of the road system took place, by which road administration throughout the Colony is placed under the control of boards, and the public by-ways, which form the connecting links between the highways, and which had been much neglected, are receiving ample attention.

Legislation.

34. Sixteen Ordinances became law during the year; their titles are as follow:—

(1.) The Export Duties Suspending Ordinance, 1888.
(2.) The Purchase of Cocoa Continuance Ordinance, 1888.
(3.) The Import Duties Amending Ordinance, 1888.
(4.) The Building Societies Amending Ordinance, 1888.
(5.) An Ordinance to restrict the conveyance of Spirituous Liquors on board Her Majesty's ships.
(6.) The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1887.
(7.) The Distressed (Grenada) Seamen's Relief Ordinance, 1888.
(8.) The Post Office (Fictitious Stamps Prevention) Ordinance, 1888.
(9.) The Justices of the Peace Procedure Amendment Ordinance, 1888.
(10.) The Fire Inquiry Ordinance, 1888.
(11.) The Elementary Instruction Ordinance, 1888.
(12.) The Parochial Boards Election Ordinance, 1888.
(13.) The District Savings Banks Ordinance, 1888.
(14.) The Appropriation Ordinance, 1889.
(15.) The Ad Valorem Duties Ordinance, 1888.
(16.) The Export Duties Suspending Ordinance, 1889.

35. Nos. 1 and 3 have been already referred to in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6, the most important of the others are No. 10, which enables the magistrate of a district to hold an inquiry into the origin of any fire occurring therein; No. 11, which makes it the legal duty of every parent to provide elementary instruction for his child, and subjects him to certain penalties if he fails to do so; No. 13, which provides the machinery for savings banks in the out-districts; and No. 15, which fixes the ad valorem duty to be levied in 1889 on articles not specified in the import tariff at 7½ instead of 10 per cent., the rate demanded in 1887 and 1888.

Councils.

36. In the Executive Council, Mr. Edward Drayton, Registrar of the Supreme Court, was appointed to the seat vacated by Mr. W. H. Hyndman Jones on his promotion to a Resident Magistracy in Jamaica, and during the absence of Mr. C. M. Browne, from 29th April to 17th November, his seat at the Council was filled by Dr. Orgias, the Colonial surgeon.

37. In the Legislative Council no permanent changes were made. Messrs. Williamson, Browne, and Alexander, unofficial members, were absent from the Island during some part of the year, and their seats were taken by Messrs. John R. Bertrand, F. Gurney, and D. Webster. Dr. P. F. Macleod acted as an official member, while Mr. Edward Drayton sat ex-officio as acting treasurer and acting Colonial Secretary.

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Establishments.

38. His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief was absent from the Colony from 13th May to 9th August, on leave of absence, and from 23rd December to end of the year, on an official visit to St. Lucia. The administration of the general government in his absence on leave devolved on Mr. Laborde, the Administrator of St. Lucia, who visited Grenada to take the necessary oaths, and administered the government from 19th to 27th May. From the 13th to 18th May and again from the 28th to the 30th of that month, the government was conducted by Mr. Schooles, the Attorney General and acting Colonial Secretary. From that date up to the Governor's return the government was administered by Col. Elliott, the Inspector General of Police in Barbados, who was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary. Upon his departure on 8th December Mr. Edward Drayton, the Registrar of the Supreme Court, was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary, and upon the Governor's departure for St. Lucia on 23rd December, accompanied by Mr. Drayton, Mr. Chadwick, the Treasurer, acted as Colonial Secretary, and administered the government until 27th December, when he was relieved by Mr. R. B. Llewelyn, the Administrator of St. Vincent.

Mr. Schooles, the Attorney General, was absent on leave from 23rd July to end of the year, and Mr. W. S. Comissiong, Q.C., discharged his duties.

Mr. Chadwick, the Treasurer, was absent from 29th April to 19th November, and Mr. Drayton, the Registrar, acted for him.

The office of Chief Revenue Officer was created on a provisional footing on 1st June, and Mr. J. G. Wells, one of the revenue officers, was appointed to it. Other changes were made in the Revenue department, which result in a slight saving and effect a considerable improvement.

Mr. W. H. Hyndman Jones, the Magistrate of the Southern District, was promoted to a Resident Magistracy in Jamaica in March, and Mr. H. J. Lee Evans appointed by the Secretary of State to succeed him.

Dr. Archer, the medical officer of Carriacou, resigned his office, and Dr. N. S. Durrant was appointed to the vacancy.

Mr. Charles Risk, C.E., acted as Director of Works during Mr. Messervy's absence on leave from 15th May to end of year.

Mr. John Harbin acted as Registrar of the Supreme Court from 29th April to the end of the year, while Mr. Drayton was employed on other official duties.

The other changes are unimportant.

Pensions.

39. The pension list was reduced by 124*l.* during the year by the death of three pensioners, Ann Rose Harrold, G. A. De Pradines, and W. B. Markson; at the end of the year it amounted to 790*l.*, the expenditure during the year being 842*l.*

Vital Statistics.

40. The population at 31st December 1888 is estimated to be 49,337, which, compared with the result of the census of 1881, shows an increase in eight years of 6,934. It is well to point out, however, that this is little more than an estimate, as no reliable record is kept of immigration or emigration, except in the case of East Indians who come to the Colony as indentured labourers. This estimate is probably, if anything, below the mark, for, as the following figures show, there has been a steady natural increase since the year of the census, and there is known to have been of late years an influx of immigrants from other West Indian islands, chiefly Barbados and St. Vincent, and that there is hardly any emigration of natives from the Colony. This was forcibly instanced quite recently when the Panama Canal works were suspended, and it became necessary in the case of the neighbouring island of St. Lucia to repatriate hundreds of the canal labourers who belonged to that Colony, while only one Grenadian was returned by the British Consul.

Year.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1881 - - -	244	1,806	1,146	660
1882 - - -	229	1,914	945	969
1883 - - -	224	1,913	941	972
1884 - - -	321	1,869	1,103	766
1885 - - -	221	1,965	1,208	757
1886 - - -	255	1,973	1,033	940
1887 - - -	254	2,128	1,146	982
1888 - - -	269	2,230	1,145	1,085
Totals - -	2,017	15,798	8,667	7,131
Average - -	252·13	1,974·75	1,083·38	891·38

41. The gross increase from natural causes was 7,131, but to this must be added 172 Indian immigrants introduced in 1885, and deducted the time-expired immigrants, numbering 121, who returned to India in 1881 and 1888, and the natural increase from 1st January to 4th April 1881, the date of the census. The net increase from the time of the census is thus shown to be 6,934.

42. The year under review exhibits satisfactory results: the births exceeded those in 1887 by 102, and the average of the eight

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years by 255; and the preponderance of births over deaths was 1,085, being 103 more than in 1887, and 194 more than the average.

43. The number of marriages was higher than in any year of the group since 1884, and although this does not necessarily indicate any moral improvement of the people, still it is satisfactory as showing their increasing prosperity.

44. The statistics relating to infant mortality are, however, unsatisfactory; out of 1,145 deaths 403, or more than one third, were those of infants one year old and under. Deducting the still-births, we find that of the remainder, 272, 102 died within a month of birth, and that the death of 66 is attributed to diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion. The carelessness of mothers of the labouring class in theses islands with their children is well known, but it is due to ignorance more than anything else. Improper food and exposure are frequent causes of infant mortality, and only the spread of education can eradicate the evil. The following statement compares the figures under this head for the last six years:—

1883 - - - -	296		
1884 - - - -	336	337	
1885 - - - -	379		358
1886 - - - -	330		
1887 - - - -	401	378	
1888 - - - -	403		

Savings Bank.

45. The subjoined table details the business of this institution during the last four years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors	Balance at 1st January.	Deposited during the Year.	Withdrawn during the Year, including Interest.	Balance at 31st December.	Interest paid during the Year.
		£	£	£	£	£
1885 -	163	2,179	2,263	1,919	2,570	47
1886 -	196	2,570	3,210	2,181	3,662	62
1887 -	343	3,662	3,757	2,447	5,041	69
1888 -	277	5,041	4,804	4,319	5,632	106
Average -	245	3,363	3,508	2,717	4,226	71

46. The transactions of 1888 were somewhat peculiar; although there was a decrease in the number of depositors as compared with 1887, the deposits and withdrawals were much larger. This was caused by deposits, amounting to 1,133*l.*, made on account of return immigrants, and withdrawals, amounting to 999*l.*, on the

same account. Of the balance of 5,632*l.* at the end of the year, 4,000*l.* is invested in South Australian Government Stock, 1,500*l.* is on deposit in the Colonial Bank at 3 per cent. interest, and the balance is with that bank on current account.

47. During the year an Ordinance was passed enabling the Government to open branch banks in the out-districts, as it is believed that, by making the savings bank easy of access to the people in all parts of the Island, its operations will be greatly increased and habits of thrift and economy encouraged.

Indian Immigration.

48. No immigrants were introduced or requisitioned for during the year, but 93 of a batch imported in 1878 returned to India, and 295 of the same shipment accepted bounty, nearly all of them remaining in the Colony. The return immigrants took with them about 850*l.* besides their jewellery.

49. There were three murders committed in 1888, two of the victims being wives of the murderers, and the third a child of one of those wives. In the first case the murderer was an indentured immigrant, and a Hindu by religion; in the second he was only of Indian parentage, being a native of British Guiana, and a Christian by religion; both were convicted of the crime and executed.

50. About 1,961 Indians were resident in Grenada at the end of the year, and there seems to be no prospect at present of further immigration taking place.

Ecclesiastical.

51. The expenditure was reduced during the year by 20*l.* in consequence of the death of the sexton of St. Mark's. The vote of 524*l.* on the current year's estimates represents the salaries payable to two clergymen, two sextons, and an organist, all of the Anglican Church, whose vested rights were protected by the Act of Disendowment in 1874.

Education.

52. An abstract of the figures returned in the Blue Book under the head of primary education for 1888 is appended.

Description of School.	No. of Schools.	Scholars on Roll.	Average Attendances.	Income.		Expenditure.		
				School Fees.	Government Grant.	Total.	Per School.	Per Scholar.
				£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
Government schools -	8	1,078	535	140	927	1,067	133	0 19 9
GOVERNMENT-AIDED SCHOOLS.								
Anglican - - -	7	1,219	627	168	670	838	119	0 13 9
Roman Catholic - -	9	1,386	703	187	757	944	105	0 13 7
Wesleyan - - -	5	757	422	107	454	561	112	0 14 10
Totals - -	29	4,440	2,287	602	2,808	3,410	117	0 15 4

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53. Compared with 1887 these results are very satisfactory. The number on the roll was 4,440 against 3,325; the average attendance, 2,287 against 2,001, and the school fees were 602*l.* against 479*l.* The total expenditure of the schools as returned was 3,410*l.*, being at the rate of 117*l.* per school, and 15*s.* 4*d.* per scholar, for the year, the highest rate of expenditure being that of the Government schools, and the lowest that of the Roman Catholic. The comparatively high cost of the Government schools is due to the facts that quarters are rented for their teachers, and books furnished to the scholars free of charge, also that amounts paid for purchase of sites, buildings, and furniture are included in one or two cases in the Blue Book Return.

54. The Roman Catholic school in Hillsborough, Carriacou, was taken over by Government, and a Government infant school opened at Belmont, in St. George's parish, during the year.

55. There is a grammar school for boys in St. George with 35 scholars on the roll in 1888 and an average attendance of 25. The Government give a grant of 250*l.* per annum in aid of this school, and a further result grant of 5*l.* per annum for every pupil who obtains more than 50 per cent. marks at the annual examination. The total grant amounted in 1888 to 351*l.*, while the school fees were 125*l.* This school has not received in the past the support from the public which it deserves, but in the current year a change of masters has taken place, and great efforts are being made to place it on a better footing.

Imports and Exports.

56. Three tables are annexed to illustrate the direction of the trade of the Colony during the last four years. The first shows the total value of the imports and exports in each year and their division between the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries:—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 -	63,325	56,141	18,639	138,105	158,901	9,866	9,954	178,721
1886 -	53,553	49,044	17,741	120,338	159,805	10,940	9,946	180,691
1887 -	73,306	47,787	22,093	143,186	185,216	10,612	22,121	217,949
1888 -	82,597	52,522	27,318	162,437	202,684	9,182	17,397	229,263
Totals -	272,781	205,494	85,791	564,066	706,606	40,600	59,418	806,624
Average -	68,195	51,373	21,448	141,017	176,652	10,150	14,854	201,656

57. The average imports from the United Kingdom are 48 per cent., and the exports 87 per cent. of the totals, and in the year

under review the total imports exceeded the average by 21,420*l.* and the exports by 27,607*l.*

58. The second table compares the trade done with neighbouring British Colonies in the four years ended 31st December 1888:—

Year.	Imports.						Exports.					
	Barbados.	Trinidad.	St. Vincent.	St. Lucia.	Other British Colonies.	Totals.	Barbados.	Trinidad.	St. Vincent.	St. Lucia.	Other British Colonies.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 -	38,300	16,654	798	200	189	56,141	3,334	5,912	232	228	160	9,866
1886 -	32,869	13,687	1,098	281	1,109	49,044	4,118	6,063	93	605	61	10,940
1887 -	34,456	11,716	777	144	694	47,787	4,314	5,690	81	382	145	10,612
1888 -	39,832	11,111	916	186	477	52,522	3,341	5,556	16	259	10	9,182
Totals	145,457	53,168	3,589	811	2,469	205,494	15,107	23,221	422	1,474	376	40,600
Average	36,364	13,292	897	203	617	51,373	3,777	5,805	105	368	94	10,150

59. It will be seen that the imports from these Colonies largely exceed the exports to them, and that the principal inter-colonial trade is carried on with Barbados and Trinidad, the per-centage of the average totals being as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
Barbados - - - -	70·79	37·22
Trinidad - - -	25·86	57·19
St. Vincent - - -	1·75	1·04
St. Lucia - - - -	·39	3·63
Others - - - -	1·21	·92

It is believed that the export trade with Trinidad is much understated in the returns, as a very small portion of that which is carried on by steamers is recorded. It chiefly consists of fruit, vegetables, live stock, and poultry.

60. The third table indicates the principal foreign countries which trade with this Colony, and here it appears that 93 per cent. of the imports from such countries are from the United States of America, and 83 per cent. of the exports to them go to France.

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The imports from the United States are chiefly flour and other food-stuffs, and lumber, and the exports to France chiefly cocoa.

Year.	Imports.					Exports.					
	United States.	France.	Martinique.	Other Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United States.	France.	Martinique.	Margarita.	Other Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 -	17,325	69	409	836	18,639	401	8,100	1,343	110	Nil.	9,954
1886 -	15,842	133	835	931	17,741	999	6,866	1,334	Nil.	727	9,946
1887 -	20,851	207	334	701	22,093	2,032	19,200	693	168	28	22,121
1888 -	26,466	143	22	687	27,318	1,216	15,588	33	560	Nil.	17,397
Totals -	80,484	552	1,600	3,155	85,791	4,648	49,774	3,403	838	755	59,418
Average	20,121	138	400	789	21,448	1 162	12,443	851	209	189	14,854

61. The following comparative statement of the value of the principal items of the produce or manufacture of the Colony exported in the last four years is interesting:—

Year.	Cocoa.	Cotton.	Cotton Seed.	Fire-wood.	Fruit.	Hides.	Live Stock.	Manure (Sheep).	Ground Nuts.	Peas.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 -	147,394	5,457	1,048	1,642	52	519	4,592	488	159	945
1886 -	155,938	998	127	1,456	71	511	4,693	311	Nil.	1,705
1887 -	185,412	8,048	1,368	1,170	110	437	2,742	301	52	3,063
1888 -	199,902	7,632	1,413	1,098	167	547	3,230	766	382	1,487
Totals -	688,646	22,135	3,956	5,366	400	2,014	15,257	1,866	593	7,200
Average	172,161	5,534	989	1,341	100	504	3,814	466	148	1,800

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Poultry.	Spices.	Sugar.	Turtle Shell.	Rum.	Shrub.	Starch.	Log-wood.	Yams.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 -	553	5,526	5,996	1,344	531	50	263	472	309
1886 -	341	8,999	771	784	41	Nil.	832	786	251
1887 -	484	9,709	1,920	280	Nil.	10	1,260	301	231
1888 -	580	9,429	697	200	14	40	280	147	128
Totals -	1,958	33,563	9,384	2,608	586	100	2,635	1,706	919
Average	489	8,391	2,346	652	146	25	659	426	229

In the year 1888 the amount of most of these exports was above the average, cocoa in particular being 27,741*l.* in excess of it. The cotton and cotton seed exported are the product of the island of Carriacou, and nearly all of it goes to the United Kingdom.

62. The export of sugar has dwindled from 5,996*l.* in 1885 to 697*l.* in 1888, the United States of America being in that year the only country to which any was sent. The value of the sugar manufactured in the Colony in 1888 is estimated at 13,815*l.*, so that almost all of it is consumed locally.

Shipping.

63. During the year 1888 525 vessels, with a tonnage of 192,574, were entered at the three ports of the Colony, and 463, with a tonnage of 137,062, were cleared. The direction of the shipping trade inwards and outwards is shown in the accompanying tables, which also institute a comparison between the results of 1888 and previous years.

INWARDS.

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Colonies.		Foreign Colonies.		United States.		Venezuela.		India.		Holland.		Totals.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1885 -	55	70,793	444	54,771	70	5,082	15	11,237	5	166	1	1,199	—	—	590	143,248
1886 -	61	94,423	418	76,818	51	1,289	14	8,820	9	92	—	—	2	359	555	181,801
1887 -	60	90,885	404	60,158	27	426	21	14,288	5	81	—	—	1	180	518	166,018
1888 -	62	101,160	407	71,488	24	669	23	16,370	8	2,707	—	—	1	180	525	192,574
Totals -	238	357,261	1,673	263,235	172	7,466	73	50,715	27	3,046	1	1,199	4	719	2,188	683,641
Average	59	89,315	418	65,808	43	1,866	18	12,679	7	761	·25	299	1	179	547	170,910

OUTWARDS.

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Colonies.		Foreign Colonies.		United States.		Venezuela.		Mexico.		France.		Columbia.		Santo Domingo.		Totals.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1885 - -	50	75,160	456	26,260	47	695	6	4,819	9	145	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	568	107,079
1886 - -	53	88,647	426	23,366	42	672	4	3,533	7	73	1	241	—	—	—	—	—	—	533	116,537
1887 - -	51	82,324	390	20,366	35	1,795	7	7,567	3	42	1	393	2	4,302	1	170	—	—	490	116,959
1888 - -	58	98,294	369	26,942	18	793	6	6,492	7	280	—	—	2	3,662	—	—	3	599	463	137,062
Totals - -	212	344,425	1,641	96,934	142	3,955	23	22,411	26	545	2	634	4	7,964	1	170	3	599	2,054	477,637
Average -	53	86,103	410	24,233	35	989	6	5,603	6	136	·5	158	1	1,991	·25	42	·75	149	514	119,409

64. The average tonnage entered inwards from the United Kingdom is 52 per cent., and that entered outwards 72 per cent., of the average total for the four years, and of the remainder, 32 per cent. inwards and 20 per cent. outwards, is from and to British Colonies.

65. The nationality of the vessels entered and cleared during the same years is shown in the following statement, which also compares the number of steamers and sailing vessels:—

Year.	Entered.								Cleared.							
	British.				Foreign.				British.				Foreign.			
	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1885	88	126,766	423	14,023	—	—	79	2,459	61	90,792	449	14,956	—	—	58	1,331
1886	103	168,621	419	9,925	2	890	31	2,365	62	103,891	434	10,332	—	—	37	2,324
1887	98	153,311	398	9,479	1	445	21	2,783	63	104,425	404	9,446	—	—	23	3,088
1888	110	179,706	393	9,550	—	—	22	3,318	74	124,443	368	9,602	—	—	21	3,017
Total	399	628,403	1,633	42,977	3	1,335	153	10,925	260	423,551	1,655	44,826	—	—	139	9,760
Average	99	157,101	408	10,774	·75	334	38	2,731	65	105,888	414	11,081	—	—	35	2,440

66. From these figures it appears that British steamers contribute 92 per cent. of the tonnage inwards and 89 per cent. of the tonnage outwards. There is a curious difference between the number and tonnage of steamers entering and clearing, which is due to the fact that unless steamers take away cargo no entry outwards is made by their agents. Steps are being taken to secure that a formal entry outwards is always made in future.

Agriculture.

67. The Colony is estimated to contain 85,120 acres, of which 21,071, about one fourth, are returned as under cultivation; the figures for the three previous years are:—

	Acres.
1885 - - - - -	18,961
1886 - - - - -	19,420
1887 - - - - -	19,960

so that cultivation is steadily on the increase. The nature of the cultivation is shown below —

Year.	Canes.	Coffee.	Cocoa.	Cotton.	Arrow-root.	Spices, &c.	Provisions.
	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.
1885 -	1,756	42	9,870	1,592	6	1,941	3,754
1886 -	1,310	57	10,367	1,523	28	1,762	4,174
1887 -	1,200	65	10,543	1,610	15	1,745	4,147
1888 -	1,113	35	11,188	1,768	3	1,681	5,283

68. The cultivation of the sugar cane is steadily decreasing, and that of cocoa and cotton increasing; spices also show a tendency to decrease; coffee is fluctuating, but the current year 1889 will exhibit a larger return under this head owing to the stimulus given to its cultivation by the free distribution in the present season of coffee plants by the Government and the information circulated with respect to the benefits derived from exporting unhusked coffee beans to be cleaned in London.

69. In this connexion it may be noted that the Botanical Gardens started in 1886 is making favourable progress, and promises to become an important agent in the agricultural development of the Colony. Towards the close of the year its general supervision and management were placed under the control of a committee of gentlemen whose care and attention cannot fail to be productive of good results.

Prisons.

70. There are two prisons in the Colony, about two miles apart, the Richmond Hill Prison used for male, and the old common gaol in the town of St. George for female, prisoners.

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71. A comparative statement of the chief prison statistics for the last three years is subjoined :—

Year.	No. of Persons committed.	For Debt.	For safe Custody.	For penal Imprisonment.	No. of those committed who have been previously convicted.	Daily Average in Prison.	Admissions to Hospitals.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Deaths (excluding Executions).	Cost of Prisons.	Value of Work done by Prisoners.	Per-centage of Committals of Persons previously convicted.
										£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1886 -	206	5	52	149	49	59·35	18	3·95	2	1,298 15 2	1,110 9 8	32·88
1887 -	262	3	54	205	63	62·73	21	1·62	–	1,223 14 1	1,317 15 11	30·73
1888 -	203	3	47	153	56	55·75	15	2·98	1	1,327 18 3	1,255 16 3	36·60
Totals	671	11	153	507	171	—	54	—	3	3,850 7 6	3,684 1 10	—
Average	224	4	51	169	57	59·28	18	2·85	1	1,283 9 2	1,228 0 7	33·13

72. The number of committals in 1888 was 59 less than in 1887 and 21 less than the average of the three years ; and committals for penal imprisonment were 52 less than in 1887, and 16 less than the average.

73. As will be seen from the figures, the prisons are practically self-supporting, and it should be noted that in valuing the work done no account is taken of unremunerative labour.

74. The year 1888 was marked by two highly important changes in prison discipline, the introduction of a "progressive" scale of dietary, and of a system of marks. The following extracts from the annual Report of the Inspector of Prisons refer to these changes :—

"*Dietary.*—On 1st January 1888 the scales of diet, which form the Fourth Appendix to this Report, were introduced. They are based on the principles long ago adopted in English prisons, that the quantity of diet should be proportionate to the length of sentence, and should be sufficient, and not more than sufficient, to preserve health and vigour. Perfect success has attended the experiment, and economy is also promoted by it, as its chief constituents, bread and vegetables, are produced by prison labour.

"*Mark System.*—On 1st February 1888 a system of classification of prisoners and remission of sentences by means of marks was introduced. The quality and quantity of the labour enforced is also regulated by the same means. Under this system all convicted prisoners (except 1st class misdemeanants, non-criminal debtors, and surety prisoners) whose sentences exceed one month are awarded marks daily in proportion to their industry, and allowed according to their earnings to progress through certain classes or stages which regulate the nature of their work, and confer trivial privileges, the possession of which is much appreciated. Prisoners whose sentences do not exceed one month, and those who by misconduct either do not earn the requisite number of

marks, or are detained in or degraded thereto, are kept in the 4th or lowest class, where no privileges are allowed and where they are kept at 1st class (or penal) labour. Those whose sentences are two years and upwards are in addition allowed to earn a remission not exceeding one fourth of their sentence in proportion to the marks they work for.

"The effect of this change has been wonderful. The prisoners, especially those eligible for remission, take a keen interest in their marks, and degradation to the 4th class is bitterly felt. To the average criminal in these islands it is of itself a privilege to be a '1st class man,' and to be deprived of the badges on the sleeve, which are the outward and visible signs of his position, is a severe punishment. Altogether the success of the new departure has been very gratifying."

75. The prison department has received much care and attention in the four years 1885–89, and its condition is now very satisfactory. The chief plan in present arrangements is the existence of a separate prison for females in the town of St. George, which it is not possible to control efficiently with the class of female officer available for the salary assigned. The transfer of the female prisoners to a new prison to be built adjoining that for males on Richmond Hill is under consideration, and there is some prospect of its being undertaken early next year.

Criminal Statistics.

76. The following tabular statement compares the figures relating to crime for the last four years, and shows the difference in 1888 from the average results:—

——	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	Average.	Difference in 1888 from Average.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
Offences reported to the police Apprehended by police or summoned by magistrates	1,584	1,451	1,727	1,873	1,659	214	
Summary convictions:							
1. Offences against the person	200	183	190	241	204	37	—
2. Prædial larceny	31	35	22	18	27	—	9
3. Other offences against property	156	171	149	150	156	—	6
4. Other offences	351	273	454	468	386	82	—
Total summary convictions	738	662	815	877	773	104	—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	Average.	Difference in 1888 from Average. Increase.	Difference in 1888 from Average. Decrease.
Convictions in superior courts:							
1. Offences against the person	5	8	11	7	8	—	1
2. Prædial larceny	—	5	—	—	1	—	1
3. Other offences against property	13	10	14	13	12	1	—
4. Other offences	10	1	2	1	4	—	3
Total convictions in superior courts	28	24	27	21	25	—	4
Acquittals:							
In inferior courts	265	242	333	356	299	57	—
In superior courts	18	24	12	16	18	—	2
Total acquittals	283	266	345	372	317	55	—

77. There was unquestionably an increase in 1888 in the number of offences committed, but fortunately only in regard to minor offences, for the number of convictions in the superior court was less than in any of the four years, and of the 877 convictions in the magistrates' courts, 678 were met by the imposition of fines, and 63 by binding over with sureties.

78. The total number of offences coming before the magistrates' courts was 1,873, being at the rate of 37·97 per thousand of the estimated population, as compared with 34·66, calculated on the average of the four years. As the Attorney-General shows, however, in his annual report, there were "956 cases out of 1,873 "wherein the parties charged were either not prosecuted or were "acquitted;" and he further remarks, "The number of cases not "prosecuted or acquitted bears far too large a proportion to the "number of convictions; it betokens a carelessness in the proceed-"ings in cases which come before the magistrate, but whether on "the part of private prosecutors or of the police there is nothing "to show."

Hospitals and Asylums.

79. There are five hospitals in the Colony, one of which is set apart for the segregation and treatment of cases of the disease known as "yaws" (Frambœsia), one asylum for lunatics, and one for lepers and paupers. All of these are entirely supported by the Government.

80. The Colonial Hospital is situated at the south-western extremity of the promontory on which the town of St. George is

built, a singularly cool and salubrious locality. There are beds for 78 patients, and the daily average in 1888 was 52, the number of admissions 403, of deaths 29, and of patients discharged as cured, 249; out of 457 cases under treatment during the year, 119 were of ulcers, 62 of fever, and 18 of dysentery.

General repairs to the buildings, along with certain internal alterations, were begun in December 1888, and finished in 1889. With the exception of the dispensary, which requires attention, and the absence of a storeroom, the institution in this respect is now in a satisfactory condition.

81. The Yaws Hospital is close to the Colony hospital, but there is no communication between them; the daily average in 1888 was 121, the number of admissions 247, of deaths 1, and of cures 268. About 75 per cent. of the cases treated are children between the years of one and 15.

This loathsome disease is largely prevalent in some districts of the Island, and although the work at the hospital serves in some measure to keep it in check, there seems little prospect of extirpating it without incurring an enormous annual expenditure.

82. The St. John's District Hospital stands on rising ground to the north of the town of Gonyave. There are beds for 14 patients, and the number admitted in 1888 was 137, the number of deaths 7, and the daily average 8·65; the majority of cases treated were fever, ulcers, and dysentery. This hospital is in need of repairs and painting, and will receive attention this year from the Works department.

83. The St. Andrew's District Hospital is a short distance from the town of Grenville, and can contain 16 patients. The daily average in 1888 was 9·5, the number of admissions 88, and of deaths 4; ulcers and fever formed the bulk of the cases under treatment.

84. The District Hospital in Carriacou is situated on a hill overlooking the town of Hillsborough. There are nine beds, but the daily average in 1888 was only one, and the admissions 30, as the institution was much neglected by those responsible for its care. A new medical officer was appointed in September, and the returns for 1889 will show different results.

85. The lunatic asylum is on Richmond Hill, about a mile and a half from St. George's. In it are treated not only the lunatics of Grenada, but those from the other islands of the Government, and from Tobago; these last are to be removed to Trinidad as soon as room can be found for them in the asylum there. The daily average of patients in 1888 was 73, 39 males, 34 females; 11 patients were discharged cured, and 10 died. The buildings were thoroughly repaired during the year, but an infirmary ward is still necessary and should be supplied.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

86. The poor asylum adjoins that for lunatics and can accommodate 50 inmates. The daily average in 1888 was 45, and there were 19 deaths, the largest number recorded for many years; the medical officer explains that "the majority of the inmates admitted "were aged persons suffering from long standing chronic diseases, "many of whom succumbed after a short residence." The buildings were thoroughly repaired in the course of the year. The total expenditure on this institution in 1888 was 443*l.*, besides which the Government expended 253*l.* on out-door pensioners, and 134*l.* on interment of paupers, making a total expenditure on poor relief of 830*l.*

87. There is another almshouse in the town of St. George supported by voluntary contributions. It had been for some time in a disgraceful state of repair, but steps were taken at Lady Sendall's initiation during the year to raise a fund for its renewal. The effort has been thoroughly successful, and at the date of this report the building has been thoroughly renewed, its management revised, and it is occupied by eight inmates under the care of a matron.

88. There is a public library in St. George's which received in 1888 a grant of 144*l.* from the Government to pay the librarian and purchase books, &c. In the present year great changes and improvements are being effected, the former librarian has been retired on pension after long service, and a new officer appointed. The rules have been revised, and every effort is being made to place the institution on a proper footing. Subscribers of not less than 4*s.* a year are entitled to borrow books subject to the rules, and there are now 101 subscribers on the roll.

89. A library is also established at Grenville to which Government contributes 20*l.* per annum.

Railways and Telegraphs.

90. There are no railways in Grenada, but the propriety of constructing a light line across the Island has recently been discussed with approval at a public meeting. There are about 50 miles of telephone wire connecting the Government offices, prison, &c., with the police stations in the out-districts. Private messages are forwarded upon payment of a small fee, the receipts in 1888 amounting to 109*l.* The establishment of telephone exchanges in the towns in connexion with this line is under consideration.

Meteorological Observations.

91. Stations for recording meteorological observations were established by Government in 1886 at Richmond Hill St.

George's (580 feet above sea level) in the south of the Island, and at St. Patrick's (400 feet above sea level) in the north.

92. The mean results at the two stations for the year 1888 are shown below:—

Station.	Pressure.	Temperature of Air.	Tension of Vapour.	Relative Humidity.	Total Rainfall.	Days of Rain.	Direction of Wind.					
							N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	N.W.
St. George's -	30·011	78·2	·780	79	80·06	188	—	28	170	146	22	—
St. Patrick's -	30·026	78·7	·786	73	85·86	No return	3	143	63	122	—	2

93. The highest temperature recorded was 92° at St. George's on the 19th of October, the lowest 65·2° at St. Patrick's on the 19th January.

94. The heaviest fall of rain in one day was recorded at St. George's on the 9th November, 3 inches and 29 parts, and in one month, at the same station in January, 13·26 inches.

95. An earthquake was felt on 10th January which was acknowledged to be the most severe shock experienced for 40 years; numbers of buildings were cracked and otherwise damaged.

Conclusion.

96. 1888 was a very prosperous year for the Colony, and the results exhibited by the statistics embodied in this report show what the future of Grenada will be if progress continues at the same rate as in the last four years. With a large and ever-increasing body of peasant proprietors, absentee landlords are almost unknown; but it is to be regretted that there are comparatively few holdings free and unencumbered, and that large sums go out of the Colony in the shape of interest due to non-resident mortgagees.

97. The Colony's progress may in the future be hampered by the present almost exclusive attention to the cultivation of cocoa and neglect of other products, and it is to be hoped that the efforts of the people will be steadily directed towards the removal of this danger. It has been well said that almost anything will grow in Grenada, and the sufferings of neighbouring Colonies whose all was centred in the success of sugar should be an instructive lesson to Grenadians. At the date of this report there are indications of a desire among the people to avail themselves of new industries; the cultivation of coffee and kola nuts is being extended, and there

is some prospect of a fruit trade being developed with the United States. These and other so-called "minor industries," if followed up, cannot fail to place the prosperity of the Colony upon a firmer basis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD DRAYTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir Walter Sendall, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Governor-in-Chief.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 48.

HELIGOLAND.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 9.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1889.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE.
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1889.

[C.—5620.-6.] *Price* ½*d.*

NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	British Bechuanaland	,,
44	Victoria	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,

No. 48.

HELIGOLAND.

Governor BARKLY to Lord KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Heligoland, April 16, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to forward two copies of the Heligoland Blue Book for 1888, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR BARKLY.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the HELIGOLAND BLUE BOOK for 1888

Taxation.

There were no changes under this head during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1888 amounted to 8,132*l.* 11*s.* 8½*d.*, above the estimated amount, but somewhat below that of the year before, neither the bathing nor fishing seasons having been very successful.

The expenditure was 7,544*l.* against 8,425*l.* in the previous year.

Debt.

Since 1887 there has been no public debt.

Public Works.

No new public works were executed or commenced during 1888, but the bulwark was repaired, Sandy Island was further protected by the erection of bush screens and the planting of grass, and a good deal was done to improve the paving of the streets in the town.

HELIGOLAND.

Legislation.

Seven Ordinances were passed in 1888, their numbers, dates, and substance being as follows:—

No. 1, 9th April 1888. Duty on licenses to use and carry guns.

No. 2, 5th April 1888. Establishing quarantine when necessary in Heligoland.

No. 3, 13th April 1888. Copyright in paintings, drawings, and photographs.

No. 4, 18th April 1888. Aliens not to acquire rights in Heligoland by marriage with Heligoland women.

No. 5, 27th April 1888. Regulating the construction of buildings.

No. 6, 15th June 1888. Rules and regulations for the Colonial School.

No. 7, 7th July 1888. Provision for vaccination in Heligoland.

Civil Establishment.

The only changes of importance under this head were the appointments of Lieut.-Colonel Edmund Whitehead to be magistrate in place of the late Captain Campbell, and of Mr. W. Smith as Coast Guard Officer and Wreck Receiver in succession to Mr. Bush.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The population was estimated at 2,001—917 males and 1,084 females—at the census of 1881.

The births during the year numbered 49, and the deaths 23. The Island is known as one of the healthiest spots in the world.

Imports and Exports.

The gross value of the imported goods was 30,805*l.*, of which only 305*l.* worth was from the United Kingdom, the remainder being from the neighbouring ports of Germany.

The total imports show a very slight diminution as compared with 1887, but exceed those of the two years before.

The imports from England seem, however, to have been decreasing of late years, the figures since 1885 being:—

	£
1885 - - - - -	715
1886 - - - - -	1,005
1887 - - - - -	371
1888 - - - - -	305

It is not improbable, however, that the recent entrance of the former free ports of Hamburg and Bremerhaven into the German Zollverein may cause more goods to be imported from the United Kingdom in future.

Savings Bank.

The number of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank on 31st December 1888 was 175, and the total amount of the deposits was 770*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* Most of the depositors as yet are children, but the number of adults is gradually increasing.

Education.

Education is compulsory in Heligoland for children between the ages of 6 and 14, except where the parents or guardians of such children can prove that they are receiving an efficient private education.

There is one Government School, attended in 1888 by 357 children, 172 boys and 185 girls.

Criminal Statistics.

There is very little serious crime in the Colony. The number of summary convictions for offences against the person in 1888 was three, against one in 1887 and four in 1886. For offences against property there were two convictions in 1888 against none the previous year, but of other offences there were no convictions in 1888, and seven the year before.

Gaols.

There is no regular gaol in Heligoland, but there are a few cells in which disorderly persons or petty offenders are occasionally confined.

Government House,
April 1889.

ARTHUR BARKLY.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 53.

JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PROTECTOR OF IMMIGRANTS

FOR

1888.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1889.



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15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	"
17	Bermuda	"
18	St. Helena	"
19	Barbados	"
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	"
21	Bahamas	"
22	Labuan	"
23	Malta	"
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	"
25	St. Vincent	"
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	"
27	Leeward Islands	"
28	British Guiana	"
29	Western Australia	"
30	Falkland Islands	"
31	Basutoland	"
32	St. Lucia	"
33	Hong Kong	"
34	Fiji	"
35	British Honduras	"
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
37	Ceylon	"
38	British New Guinea	"
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	"
43	Victoria	"
44	British Bechuanaland	"
45	New Guinea	"
46	Newfoundland	"
47	New Zealand	1888
48	Heligoland	"
49	Gibraltar	"
50	Bermuda	"
51	Trinidad	"
52	Turks Islands	"

No. 53.

JAMAICA (COOLIE IMMIGRATION).

Governor Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

King's House, Jamaica,
April 12, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Annual Report of the Protector of Immigrants for the year 1888.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

ANNUAL REPORT of the PROTECTOR of IMMIGRANTS for the year ended December 31, 1888.

Immigration Office, Kingston,
February 16, 1889.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Returns of this Department for the calendar year ended on the 31st December 1888.

2. No new immigrants have been introduced, though applications were received for 540 East Indians, and I was informed that a much larger number were wanted, and would have been applied for, had there been any likelihood of their being allotted on reasonable terms.

3. The question of the proposed renewal of East Indian Immigration was brought before the Legislative Council and referred to a Select Committee, whose report was, however, amended by the Council, and the requisitions have not been forwarded to India.

4. The ship "Foyle" sailed from Kingston on the 16th May, conveying 553 returning immigrants from Jamaica to Calcutta, made up as follows:—

Males of 10 years and upwards - -	279
Females „ „ - -	157
Children and infants under 10 years of age -	117
Total	553

She also had on board 92 people in transit from Grenada.

o 58940. Wt. 18437.

JAMAICA.

5. The amount of 6,648*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* was deposited in the treasury here by 125 of the immigrants and Treasury bills issued to them. The largest amount lodged by one individual was 762*l.*, there being altogether 14 lodgments of 100*l.* and over, and 19 of from 50*l.* to 100*l.* Many of the people took a considerable quantity of gold and a moderate quantity of silver coins with them, and the show of gold and silver jewellery was even larger than usual. Certainly not less than 2,000*l.* worth of personal property was taken away in addition to the bills. I noticed that nearly all the coolies had adopted the European costume and many were expensively dressed in tweeds, serges, muslins or silks.

6. Intelligence has been received from India of the safe arrival of the "Foyle" at Calcutta, and I append an extract from the "Calcutta Englishman" newspaper showing the impression created by them on landing:—

"At a time when recruiting for labourers in India for the French Colonies has been prohibited it is interesting to observe that our own Colonies send back their coolies in a highly prosperous condition. The ship "Foyle" which arrived on Saturday from Jamaica landed 650 immigrants who had thriven surprisingly during their voluntary exile. The landing was effected on Sunday at the British Guiana jetty and was a lively and interesting spectacle. A motley crowd of men, women, and children came straggling along the gangway many of them cuirassed with jewellery and laden with impediments. Others who were above carrying their own things got some of the crew to take them ashore, and swaggered about on the jetty as if the whole place belonged to them. One dark lady of imposing mien, arrayed in a handsome silk dress of European fashion, strutted ashore, the happy owner of bills for a thousand pounds sterling and jewellery galore. A gentleman dressed in European style, his beard frosted by time, came slowly along the gangway with the stalk of an adjutant. He had acquired three small coffee estates, and having disposed of his property for some seven hundred pounds was returning to the land of his fathers. Altogether the people brought with them about a lakh and a quarter of rupees in bills. There were 14 births and as many deaths on the voyage, which was a rather long one, owing to calms."

A correspondent who describes the scene adds:—"The oldest "inhabitant says they were the finest body of returned immigrants "among the many thousands whose arrival he has witnessed. Large "of limb and well developed, their condition reflects credit on the "land of their adoption, no less than on Dr. Miley, the surgeon "superintendent, and his staff, who were ably seconded by Captain "Cutting, one of the most experienced commanders in Mr. Nourse's "service. Indeed, judging by the nods and becks and wreathed "smiles exchanged at parting between the crew and the passengers "they must have had a good time notwithstanding the long voyage." As has been said, "the 'Foyle' was delayed by calms, having "left Jamaica on the 18th of May, and touched at the Cape of "Good Hope on the 19th of August."

7. In addition to the coolies who left in the "Foyle" 15 East Indians paid their own passages and sailed for India by the Royal mail steamer "Moselle" on the 28th March last, taking through tickets for Calcutta. The amount paid to the Royal Mail Company by them was 385*l.* and they took with them Treasury bills for 970*l.* in the following proportions :—

	£
1	for 700
2	„ 100 each
1	„ 50
1	„ 20

Another batch of five sailed in the Royal mail steamer on the 1st August, paying 177*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* in passage money, and taking with them Treasury bills for 200*l.*, but they acknowledged to having in their possession over 1,000*l.* in gold besides.

8. I consider that it would be very moderate to estimate that the coolies who returned to India during 1888 took value to the extent of 12,000*l.* with them.

9. Two coolies who returned to India paid their own passages by steamer and came back to Jamaica, preferring to take up their permanent residence here.

10. Eighty-six coolies took passports during the year as against 225 for the previous 12 months.

11. The mortality and birth rate for the year compared with the previous 12 months are as follows :—

Mortality.

	1888.	1887.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
East Indians - - - - -	2·28	2·66
Chinese - - - - -	·46	1·23

Birth Rate.

	1888.	1887.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
East Indians - - - - - -	2·09	1·11
Chinese - - - - - -	·30	·92

JAMAICA.

There were no murders amongst the East Indian population during 1888.

12. From an approximate statement furnished by the Treasurer it would appear that there was a balance at credit of the Immigration Fund on the 30th September last of 16,702*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.*, but from this must be deducted the expense of repatriating the coolies per "Foyle," which has not yet been brought to account, amounting to between 5,000*l.* and 6,000*l.* There was also at credit of the Return Passage Fund an amount of 12,634*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*

13. As there seems from the correspondence which has appeared in the public newspapers within the past few months to be considerable misunderstanding amongst persons who have not taken the trouble of consulting the immigration laws, respecting the condition of indentured coolies, I venture to point out a few salient features of the immigration system in this Colony.

From the moment the coolie consents to emigrate from India he is clothed and fed at the expense of the Immigration Fund. He is taken before a magistrate and the terms of his agreement fully explained to him before it is entered into, but notwithstanding this he is allowed to change his mind at any time before embarkation and return to his home. The Indian Government has taken the greatest care that the fullest information shall be given the coolie and deception shall be impossible.

On his arrival in this Colony he is provided with a suit of working clothes, agricultural implements and cooking utensils, and he is indentured on an estate for five years, and it is his duty, if required, to work for six days of each week (holidays excepted) but almost invariably only 5 or 5½ days work is done weekly, and leave of absence is frequently given in addition at his request, and he is free to do what he likes out of working hours.

He has to be provided with work always, or paid wages in default, and his employer cannot dismiss him for misconduct, but he may be fined by an inspector of immigrants after a formal trial. He is further provided with house room free of rent, and medical attendance and hospital treatment free of cost, and his wages must be paid to him in money weekly. These conditions are such that all industrious coolies are enabled after a very short residence in the Colony to save something out of their earnings, and the very large number of labourers who, after completing their indentures, return to India and again re-emigrate to serve another period of indenture in this or some other British Colony affords ample proof that the coolies are much better off in the Colonies when under indenture than in their native country.

I have, &c.

PHILIP C. CORK,
Protector of Immigrants.

Return showing the Number of Deaths and Births from 1*st January to* 31*st December* 1888 *amongst Coolies who arrived in Jamaica during the Year* 1883–84.

Estate.	Parish.	Ship.	Number on Estate on 1st January 1888.	Deaths.	Births.	Per-centage of Deaths.	Per-centage of Births.	Number alive on 1st January 1889.
Constant Spring -	St. Andrew -	"Prinz Alexander," 1884.	25	—	—	—	—	25
Bushy Park -	St. Catherine	" "	20	—	—	—	—	20
Amity Hall -	St. Thomas -	" "	38	—	—	—	—	38
Coley - -	" -	" "	22	—	—	—	—	22
Duckenfield -	" -	" "	59	—	—	—	—	59
Hall Head - -	" -	" "	24	1	—	—	—	23
Hordley - -	" -	" "	51	1	1	—	—	51
Lyssons - -	" -	" "	36	1	—	—	—	35
Serge Island -	" -	" "	18	—	—	—	—	18
Golden Grove -	" -	" "	69	—	1	—	—	70
Trinity - -	St. Mary -	" "	18	—	—	—	—	18
Llanrumny -	" -	" "	17	—	—	—	—	17
Ballards Valley -	" -	" "	24	—	—	—	—	24
Orange Hill -	" -	" "	32	—	—	—	—	32
Agualta Vale -	" -	" "	13	—	—	—	—	13
Gray's Inn - -	" -	" "	49	—	—	—	—	49
Gibraltar - -	" -	" "	17	—	—	—	—	17
Iter Boreale -	" -	" "	18	—	—	—	—	18
Dover - -	Portland -	" "	16	—	—	—	—	16
Low Layton -	" -	" "	14	—	—	—	—	14
Lenox - -	" -	" "	8	—	—	—	—	8
Burlington - -	" -	" "	22	—	—	—	—	22
Blue Castle -	Westmoreland	" "	20	—	—	—	—	20
Meylersfield -	" -	" "	16	—	—	—	—	16
Kingston Foundry	Kingston -	" "	2	—	—	—	—	2
			648	3	2	0·46	0·3	647
		Less relieved and commuted - - - - -						129
								518

NOTE.—Of the above 287 are absent from their estates as deserters.

JAMAICA.

Return showing the Number of Deaths and Births from 1*st January to* 31*st ~~December~~* ~~1888~~ *~~amongst~~ Coolies who arrived in Jamaica during the Year* 1884–85.

Estate.	Parish.	Ship.	Number on Estate on 1st January 1888.	Deaths.	Births.	Per-centage of Deaths.	Per-centage of Births.	Number alive on 1st January 1889.
Mony Musk -	Clarendon -	"Hereford," 1885 -	25	1	—	—	—	24
Moreland - -	„ -	„ -	15	—	—	—	—	15
St. Jago - -	„ -	„ -	19	—	—	—	—	19
Albion - -	St. Thomas -	„ -	92	4	1	—	—	89
Coley - -	„ -	„ -	38	1	2	—	—	39
Serge Island -	„ -	„ -	22	—	—	—	—	22
Grand Vale -	Westmoreland	„ -	14	—	—	—	—	14
Fontabelle - -	„ -	„ -	24	—	1	—	—	25
Albany - -	„ -	„ -	20	1	—	—	—	19
Charlottenberg -	„ -	„ -	21	1	1	—	—	21
Catherine Hall -	St. James -	„ -	58	1	4	—	—	61
New Ramble -	St. Mary -	„ -	57	—	1	—	—	58
Trinity - -	„ -	„ -	22	—	1	—	—	23
Nonsuch - -	„ -	„ -	Transferred to Orange Hill.					
Orange Hill -	„ -	„ -	64	3	—	—	—	61
Agualta Vale -	„ -	„ -	Transferred to Orange Hill.					
Gray's Inn - -	„ -	„ -	15	—	—	—	—	15
Dover - -	Portland -	„ -	20	—	—	—	—	20
Burlington - -	„ -	„ -	Transferred to Moreland and St. Jago.					
			526	12	11	2·28	2·09	525
		Less relieved and commuted - - - - -						41
								484

General Summary showing Deaths and Births amongst the Indentured Immigrants in Jamaica during 1888.

Years when introduced.	Number alive on 1st Jan. 1888.	Deaths.	Births.	Per-centage of Deaths.	Per-centage of Births.	Number alive on 1st. Jan. 1889.
1887-88 First year coolies -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1886-87 Second „ „ -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1885-86 Third „ „ -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1884-85 Fourth „ „ -	526	12	11	2·28	2·09	525
1883-84 Fifth „ „ -	648	3	2	0·46	0·30	647
Total - -	1,174	15	13	1·27	1·10	1,172
Less relieved and commuted - - - - - -						170
						1,002

Synopsis of Mortality.

Return of East Indian and Chinese Immigrants under the provisions of Law 23 *of* 1879 *for the Year ended* 31*st December* 1888.

—	First year coolies.	Second year coolies.	Third year coolies.	Fourth year coolies.	Fifth year coolies.	Total Number under Indenture, &c.	Per-centage of Deaths amongst total number of coolies.
Per-centage of deaths in 1883-84 - - -	·59	—	—	—	—	2,152	1·85
Per-centage of deaths in 1884-85 - - -	1·97	4·02	—	—	—	1,995	2·74
Per-centage of deaths in 1885-86 - - -	—	4·91	2·27	—	—	1,459	3·63
Per-centage of deaths in 1886-87 - - -	—	—	2·98	1·23	—	1,377	2·19
Per-centage of deaths in 1887-88 - - -	—	—	—	2·28	0·46	1,002	1·27

JAMAICA.

Number of immigrants serving under indenture on 31st December 1888 -	1,002
Number who have completed residence of 10 years in the Colony - -	1,858
Number who have completed residence of 10 years - - - -	10,206
Total in Colony 31st December 1888 -	13,066

PHILIP C. CORK,
Protector of Immigrants.

Immigration Office, Jamaica,
16th February 1889.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 56.

JAMAICA.

REPORTS ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1887-8.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 13.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1889.



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1889.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
10	Natal	1887
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12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Island	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	1888
48	Heligoland	,,
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Protector of Immigrants)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,

No. 56.

JAMAICA.

(I.)

Sir H. W. NORMAN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, King's House, December 17, 1888.

As I shall have left Jamaica before all the statistical returns can be received which are necessary for the compilation of the Blue Book of 1887–88 and for the preparation of the Governor's Report thereon, I shall not be the officer who will have to submit the latter to your Lordship, but it seems to me that it may be convenient for me, prior to my departure, to furnish a sort of *ad interim* Report which may, at the proper time, be superseded by the more complete Report which will have to be made by the new Governor.

2. I therefore submit information on various subjects usually treated of in the Governor's Report on the Annual Blue Book of each year, merely remarking that in some cases the figures I give are approximate and subject to amendment when final returns have been received from departments.

Legislation.

3. During the year 46 Laws were passed by the Legislative Council, of which the most important or useful are the following:—

No. 18 of 1887, which provides for one set of stamps being available for both revenue and postal purposes.

No. 20 of 1887, making a reduction in the amount of export duties on sugar and rum in consequence of the diminished demands upon the Immigration Fund to which those export duties are credited.

No. 23 of 1887, which lays down a procedure for inquiry into the causes of fires and accidents by the Resident Magistrates of parishes.

No. 35 of 1887, providing that circuit courts shall meet three times in each year in every parish in the Island, except that of St. Andrew, which adjoins Kingston, instead of as heretofore in only six parishes besides Kingston, and in one of these six parishes only once in the year and in another only twice.

No. 43 of 1887, the Resident Magistrates Law, which is a code of 271 sections and seven schedules, in supersession of the less complete Law on the subject passed as Law 17 of 1887.

o 59038. Wt. 18437.

JAMAICA.

Nos. 17 and 18 of 1888, "Registration of Trades Marks Law" and "Merchandise Marks Law." These Laws were passed in order to bring the Jamaica Law into conformity with the recent legislation which has taken place on these subjects in the Imperial Parliament.

No. 21 of 1888, the Registration of Titles Law, intended to give certainty to the titles to estates in land, to facilitate the proof of titles, and to render dealings with land simple and inexpensive.

4. In the autumn session of the present year 19 Laws have been passed, the most important of which is the Civil Procedure Code Law, in supersession of the previous Law No. 39 of 1879. This Law is believed to be a great improvement upon the Law of 1879, and it is very generally approved in the Colony and will simplify legal proceedings.

Finance.

5. The year 1887–88 commenced with a deficit of 12,628*l.* This deficit may be fairly attributed to the railway transactions of the year 1886–87, for although no doubt the revenue fell off under other heads, and in some heads there was an excess of expenditure, yet the loss of the railway as shown in the financial accounts for 1886–87 amounted to 15,644*l.* (exclusive of over 5,000*l.* paid towards sinking funds), that is the interest on railway debt, and the charges for maintenance and establishment exceeded the receipts by the last-mentioned sum, so that if there had been no railway accounts there would have been at the commencement of 1887–88 a surplus of income over expenditure of 3,016*l.* instead of a deficit of 12,628*l.*

6. The accounts for the year 1887–88 are not yet finally closed, but it may be approximately assumed that the revenue for the year has amounted to about 575,546*l.* and the expenditure to 533,253*l.* Thus, notwithstanding some loss on the railway transactions, and with payments towards sinking funds amounting to 26,520*l.*, there was a surplus of income over expenditure of 42,293*l.*, leaving a clear surplus of 29,665*l.* after providing for the deficit of 12,628*l.* of the previous year.

7. The increased revenue has been almost all derived from import duties, export duties, rum duties, and railway receipts; and the year which commenced with somewhat gloomy prospects proved prosperous. I am happy to say that this prosperity has continued during the first two and a half months of the present year, that is, up to the present time.

Debt.

8. The only debt incurred during the year was a temporary loan to make good the large advances to public and parochial boards for various useful purposes. The sum so raised amounted to 57,800*l.* and was raised on debentures, a few of which are repayable in 1890 and the remainder in 1892, and all bearing

interest at 4½ per cent. It may be remarked, however, that while the interest paid on this debt amounts to 2,600*l.* a year the interest received on account of advances to public and parochial bodies amounts to 2,936*l.* a year.

9. Subsequent to the beginning of the present year notice has been given that under a Law passed in the last session a sum of 28,000*l.* would be raised on the usual terms to meet certain capital charges incurred on account of the Jamaica railway. It was also desirable to invite tenders for 4,100*l.*, being a portion of the loan authorised by Law No. 16 of 1887 which had not been taken up. For this total sum of 32,100*l.* tenders to the amount of 71,000*l.* were received, and while 14,250*l.* of the loan was taken up at 1 per cent. premium and 1,500*l.* at 10*s.* 6*d.* premium, only a proportion of 26,750*l.* could be allotted at one half per cent. premium to those who tendered, viz., 16,350*l.* at that rate.

Public Works.

10. The expenditure of this department, exclusive of cost of parochial works and also excluding the railway, has amounted approximately to 51,148*l.*, or 4,007*l.* in excess of the outlay of the previous year.

11. One very important series of works are now about to be undertaken, namely, the bridging of the large rivers in the parishes of Portland and St. Thomas. These bridges will facilitate trade and will prevent the inconvenience, and indeed often loss of life, that occurs when these rivers are in flood. These works have been long desired, and provision for them was sanctioned by loan under Law 7 of 1881, but until now it has not been found prudent to incur this debt. The ironwork for the larger bridges is now under construction in England.

12. It is also intended during the present year to provide the Morant Point Lighthouse with greatly improved illuminating apparatus, which at the same time will be more economically worked than the present old machinery.

Railway.

13. The railway traffic steadily increased during this year. The gross receipts for 1887–88 amounted approximately to 55,675*l.*, an increase of 6,581*l.* over the receipts of 1886–87. This gives a surplus of 23,363*l.* towards meeting the annual charge of 39,564*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* on railway debt. It has been deemed prudent to estimate for receipts during the present year to the amount of 64,500*l.*, as a revision of rates was brought into operation on the 1st October last which it is hoped will add to receipts and not check traffic. So far the estimate seems likely to be realised.

14. In the past year 1888 a consultative committee of gentlemen interested in commerce was formed to advise on various matters connected with the railway. This board is presided over by the Director of Public Works, and has proved useful.

JAMAICA.

Imports and Exports.

15. Under both import and export duties increase has been considerable. The value of goods imported has amounted to 1,732,115*l.*, which is 380,721*l.* in excess of the imports of last year, and 106,704*l.* in excess of the imports of the year, which stands highest in this respect in the previous nine years.

16. The total value of exports during the year was 1,828,590*l.*, or 319,580*l.* in excess of the exports of the previous year. Of these the value of the products of the Colony amounted to 1,661,601*l.*, and foreign goods to 166,989*l.* The increase in the former was 327,133*l.*, while there was a falling off in the value of goods re-exported to the extent of 7,553*l.* The great increase in the export of island productions is very gratifying, the principal advance on the previous year being in coffee, dyewoods, and fruits, an increase of 112,295*l.* in the first, 149,061*l.* in the second, and 142,751*l.* in the third. The value of fruit exported, namely, 358,334*l.*, exceeds that of the best previous year by 84,643*l.* The value of rum exported, on the other hand, is 99,154*l.* below that of the previous year, but the value of sugar exported has increased by 23,864*l.*

17. No change has been made in any of the import duties during the year, but at the commencement of the year the export duty on sugar and rum, which is credited to the Immigration Fund, was reduced from 5*s.* 6*d.* the hogshead of sugar to 3*s.*, and from 4*s.* 6*d.* the puncheon of rum to 2*s.* 6*d.*, as mentioned in paragraph three.

Judicial.

18. From the 1st of April 1888 the new system of having a Resident Magistrate who is a barrister or solicitor in each parish except that of Saint Andrew, which was joined to Kingston for this purpose, came into operation in supersession of the system of district courts and stipendiary magistrates. So far the system has worked well and is considered a great improvement upon that which preceded it. Justice is now speedily and economically administered by trained officers residing in each parish, who pay constant visits to the out-stations. It was hoped that one Resident Magistrate would have sufficed for the two parishes of Kingston and Saint Andrew if he was assisted by a paid magistrate for ordinary police cases in Kingston. It has, however, been found necessary on experience to appoint a Resident Magistrate separately for the parish of Saint Andrew, as the work of both parishes was too great for one Resident Magistrate to perform.

19. As offenders can be now easily proceeded against under the new system it is probable that at first the amount of crime may appear larger than before, but it is hoped that the prompt punishment which now follows upon crime will eventually check it.

20. There has been no special class of crime in the island which calls for remark.

Education.

21. Without any change of system education is progressing. The natural growth of the operations has caused the expenditure

to increase in 1887–88 by 1,914*l.*, making a total of 35,238*l.* for the year.

Immigration.

22. No immigrants have been brought to the island during the year, immigration having been suspended under the operation of Law 18 of 1886.

23. Five hundred and fifty-three time-expired immigrants left the island during the year.

Emigration.

24. In three or four of the parishes there is a want of labour, and by a resolution of the Legislative Council, dated 23rd October last, I am empowered to arrange for the introduction of immigrants if those who desire to have them will pay all charges for recruitment passage to Jamaica, supervision while here, and passage for those who return to India when their time expires. The charge per head will be so considerable that I do not apprehend any will be applied for, and I am now engaged in endeavouring to organise arrangements by which labour can be obtained from the redundant population of Barbados.

25. There has been a considerable decrease in the number of emigrants who have left Jamaica, although efforts are made to induce them to leave for railway work at Port Limon as well as for work on the Isthmus Canal; 11,601 persons left in 1886–87 and only 6,131 left in 1887–88, while 5,651 returned.

Savings Bank.

26. The number of depositors has increased during the year from 17,047 to 18,796, and the deposits which on the 30th of September 1887 amounted to 363,481*l.* had risen on the 30th September 1888 to 398,250*l.* The number of depositors and the amount of deposits exceeds that of any previous year.

27. In the absence of detailed returns I have no remark to make upon other subjects which usually are included in the Report on the Blue Book by the Governor. My successor will perform this duty, and I have only to say that in all departments of the public service the heads have worked zealously and well, and that the departments have been efficient, while the people have been prosperous and their health generally good.

28. The figures I have given may be subject to some slight corrections as returns come in, but for all practical purposes I believe they may be accepted as accurate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. NORMAN,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

(II.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, King's House, May 22, 1889.

IN continuation of Sir Henry Norman's Despatch of the 17th December last, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of Jamaica for the year 1887–88.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Legislation.

The *ad interim* Report furnished by Sir Henry Norman in his Despatch of the 17th December 1888 deals with the most important or useful of the Laws which were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, and his Excellency's remarks may therefore most suitably form the Report under this head which it is my duty to submit.

"3. During the year 46 Laws were passed by the Legislative Council, of which the most important or useful are the following:—

"No. 18 of 1887, which provides for one set of stamps being available for both revenue and postal purposes.

"No. 20 of 1887, making a reduction in the amount of export duties on sugar and rum in consequence of the diminished demands upon the Immigration Fund to which those export duties are credited.

"No. 23 of 1887, which lays down a procedure for inquiry into the causes of fires and accidents by the Resident Magistrates of parishes.

"No. 35 of 1887, providing that circuit courts shall meet three times in each year in every parish in the island, except that of Saint Andrew, which adjoins Kingston, instead of as heretofore in only six parishes besides Kingston, and in one of these six parishes only once in the year and in another only twice.

"No. 43 of 1887, the Resident Magistrates Law, which is a code of 271 sections and seven schedules, in supersession of the less complete Law on the subject passed as Law 17 of 1887.

"Nos. 17 and 18 of 1888, 'Registration of Trades Marks Law, and 'Merchandise Marks Law.' These Laws were passed in order to bring the Jamaica Law into conformity with the recent legislation which has taken place on these subjects in the Imperial Parliament.

"No. 21 of 1888, the Registration of Titles Law, intended to give certainty to the titles to estates in land, to facilitate the proof of titles, and to render dealings with land simple and inexpensive.

"4. In the autumn session of the present year 19 Laws have been passed, the most important of which is the Civil Procedure Code Law, in supersession of the previous Law No. 39 of 1879. This Law is believed to be a great improvement upon the Law of 1879, and it is very generally approved in the Colony and will simplify legal proceedings."

I may perhaps add some remarks respecting two Laws which have naturally attracted a good deal of attention in a Colony where a small peasant proprietary exists in every part of the country contiguous to large runs of land used for pastoral purposes; I refer to Law 13 of 1888, the "Cattle Trespass Law" and Law 14 of 1888, the "Dividing Fences Law."

The first of these Laws supersedes Law 46 of 1872, the provisions of which for assessing damage done by stock were found too cumbrous in application. Section 7 of that Law, disentitling any person to compensation for damage done by stock unless his land was well fenced, practically prevented any person from claiming damages. The result was that a large number of persons own stock who own no land, and the stock are turned out to get their living as they can, to the great detriment of small cultivators.

By the present Law the owner of stock is made responsible for any damage done by them. In deference, however, to a very considerable opposition which the Bill encountered, this responsibility is made subject to some qualifications. And in order to prevent as much as possible a custom said to be prevalent it is made an offence punishable by imprisonment, with or without hard labour, to wilfully make or leave openings to enable stock to trespass.

The other Law to which I have referred, Law 14, the "Dividing Fences Law," takes the place of the 15 Vict. c. 22. long accounted to be a dead letter. The provisions give rise to so much trouble that hardly any one avails himself of them. In deference to complaints from many parts of the country the Bill was brought forward. To use the words of the Attorney General, "It "proceeds on the basis that two neighbours should agree as to a "fence; if they cannot agree, the party who has first moved in "the matter is entitled to put up the necessary fence and to sue "the other for contribution." Provision is made for a case where it is impracticable to put a fence on the true boundary, and cases where land is let to a tenant and the tenant is or is not liable as between himself and the landlord to erect or repair fences.

Finance.

The year under report commenced with a deficit of 12,628*l.*, and the expenditure, including 26,946*l.* for sinking funds and 1,000*l.* for redemption of debt, amounted to 533,464*l.*, making together a

JAMAICA.

sum of 546,092*l.* The revenue, on the other hand, amounted to 576,147*l.*, thus covering both deficit and expenditure, and leaving at the close of the year a surplus of 30,055*l.*

The appropriated parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, pauper relief, sanitary, and other similar local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in this year 103,624*l.*, being 8,526*l.* in excess of the receipts in 1886–87.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services, including the proceeds of employers' notes for cost of introduction of immigrants, amounted to 11,478*l.* and the expenditure to 4,553*l.*

The usual comparative table of the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year under report, with those of the previous year, is given below :—

	1887–88.	1886–87.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Import duties	294,842	248,085	46,757	—
Export duties	9,382	5,570	3,812	—
Light dues	2,356	1,833	523	—
Harbour master's fees	2,081	1,618	463	—
Rum duties	101,691	77,720	23,971	—
Licenses	17,803	15,687	2,116	—
Stamps	15,995	16,038	—	43
Postal revenue	17,492	16,838	654	—
Telegraph revenue	4,448	4,058	390	—
Court fees	6,463	5,864	599	—
Fines and forfeitures	3,392	3,037	355	—
Interest on securities held for sinking funds	8,115	7,712	403	—
Interest on Savings Bank investments after paying depositors	3,330	3,406	—	76
Interest other than as above	4,074	3,451	623	—
Jamaica railway revenue	55,685	49,095	6,590	—
Reimbursements	19,429	24,417	—	4,988
Miscellaneous	9,569	10,664	—	1,095
Total	576,147	495,093	87,256	6,202
	—	—	81,054	—
Revenues specially appropriated.				
Parochial road revenues	42,935	39,670	3,265	—
Kingston street tax	3,140	2,793	347	—
Parochial municipal objects	8,693	8,624	69	—
Parochial general purposes	750	470	280	—
Poor rates	35,734	33,223	2,511	—
Sanitary rates	6,581	5,290	1,291	—
Fire rates	1,093	1,190	—	97
Gas rates	2,349	2,511	—	162
Miscellaneous	2,349	1,327	1,022	—
Total	103,624	95,098	8,785	259
	—	—	8,526	—

	1887–88.	1886–87.	Increase.	Decrease.
Immigration Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Export duties - - -	6,129	11,905	—	5,776
Interest (general) - - -	368	357	11	—
Proceeds of promissory notes -	4,626	2,933	1,693	—
Miscellaneous - - -	355	611	—	256
Total - - -	11,478	15,806	1,704	6,032
	—	—	—	4,328

The yield of the general revenue shows a net increase of 81,055*l.* over the previous year, the chief items of which are import duties, 46,757*l.*; export duties, 3,812*l.*; rum duties, 23,971*l.*; and licenses, 2,116*l.* under tax revenue; and railway, 6,590*l.* under non-tax revenue.

These very satisfactory returns are the result of a marked improvement in trade generally throughout the island. With respect, however, to rum duties, it was believed at one time that the duties would be increased, and the improved receipts are due in a measure to the large quantities of rum which were then in consequence withdrawn from bond.

The only decreases of any importance were under reimbursements, 4,988*l.*, and miscellaneous, 1,095*l.*; but these are owing rather to unusually high figures in the previous year than to a falling off generally.

The receipts from appropriated revenues show a net increase of 8,526*l.* over those of the previous year, the principal items of which are parochial road revenues, 3,265*l.*; poor rates, 2,511*l.*; sanitary rates, 1,291*l.*; and miscellaneous, 1,022*l.*

Immigration revenues show a net decrease of 4,328*l.*, chiefly owing to the reduction of export duties on sugar and rum by Law 20 of 1887.

The proceeds of planters' notes show an increase of 1,693*l.*

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with those in 1886–87 :—

	1887–88.	1886–87.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Interest on debt - - -	77,454	74,546	2,908	—
Pensions - - - -	13,498	12,363	1,135	—
Administrative departments -	32,572	29,454	3,118	—
Government savings bank -	2,256	2,144	112	—
Revenue departments - -	32,208	31,741	467	—
Postal services - - -	19,930	22,128	—	2,198
Telegraphs - - -	4,217	4,009	208	—
Judicial - - - -	36,064	35,092	972	—
Ecclesiastical - -	6,781	6,934	—	153
Medical - - - -	48,786	52,456	—	3,670
Constabulary - - -	48,033	48,218	—	185
Penitentiary and prisons - -	17,957	18,526	—	569

	1887–88.	1886–87.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure—cont.	£	£	£	£
Reformatories	5,386	5,310	76	—
Education	35,200	33,324	1,876	—
Military	7,880	7,279	601	—
Pilotage and harbours	1,476	1,325	151	—
Miscellaneous	7,035	8,057	—	1,022
Queen's Jubilee	—	640	—	640
Maintenance of forfeited lands	99	99	—	—
Steam communication round the Island	1,727	2,000	—	273
Public gardens and plantations	4,796	4,391	405	—
Institute of Jamaica	1,049	1,128	—	79
Public works	50,963	47,042	3,921	—
Lighthouses	1,355	1,038	317	—
Subsidy West India and Panama Telegraph Company	2,000	2,000	—	—
Colonization of immigrants	3,822	120	3,702	—
Jamaica railway	32,064	33,050	—	986
Registrar General's department	2,945	2,946	—	1
Island Record Office	1,021	915	106	—
Government printing establishment	6,548	5,596	952	—
Board of supervision	395	—	395	—
Total	505,517	493,871	21,422	9,776
	—	—	11,646	—
Expenditure from appropriated Revenues.				
Parochial roads	47,799	53,960	—	6,161
Kingston streets	1,115	648	467	—
Parochial municipal objects	8,403	7,559	804	—
Parochial general purposes	2,635	1,419	1,216	—
Relief of the poor	35,623	35,239	384	—
Sanitary appropriation	8,571	17,345	—	8,774
Gas appropriation, Kingston	1,897	2,528	—	631
Fire appropriation, Kingston	1,314	1,350	—	36
Victoria Institute, Westmoreland	125	—	125	—
Total	107,482	120,088	2,996	15,602
	—	—	—	12,606
Immigration expenditure	4,553	8,568	—	4,015

The general expenditure of the Colony shows an increase of 11,646*l.* The largest items of increase are under debt, 2,908*l.*, due to an increase of debt and expenses in connexion with the conversion of debentures into inscribed stock; pensions, 1,135*l.*, owing chiefly to the abolition of offices of the district courts on the change in the judicial establishment; administrative departments, 3,118*l.*, due almost entirely to the charging of the salaries of superintendents of works and clerks to the engineers to the establishment of the Public Works Department, instead of under the head of Public Works and Buildings and Maintenance of Main Roads, as heretofore; education, 1,876*l.*, on account of the schools having earned larger grants in aid; public works, 3,921*l.*,

chiefly in respect of new works which were left in abeyance in the previous year; and colonization of immigrants, 3,702*l.*, due to the number of time-expired immigrants electing to remain in the Colony being larger than had been anticipated.

On the other hand, there are large decreases under postal services, 2,198*l.*, owing to a smaller payment of contribution to Postal Union, a large sum having been paid in the previous year on the adjustment of the account; medical, 3,670*l.*, consequent on the cessation of small-pox; and miscellaneous, 1,022*l.*, owing to no payment being needed on account of contribution to the Postal Union under this head.

The expenditure from appropriated revenues shows a net decrease of 12,606*l.*; this is chiefly owing to the decrease of expenditure under parochial roads, 6,161*l.*, unusually large expenditure having been incurred in the previous year in consequence of flood damages, the excess of expenditure over revenue being met from advances from the parochial road reserved fund; and sanitary appropriation, 8,774*l.*, owing to the disappearance of small-pox.

There is on the other hand an increase of 1,216*l.* on account of parochial general purposes, owing to extended operations of the several parochial boards.

The expenditure on account of immigration service shows a decrease of 4,015*l.*, owing to the death of two pensioned officers, and to economies effected generally in consequence of the cessation of immigration.

Pensions.

During the year pensions amounting in all to 1,654*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* were granted under the provisions of the Jamaica Pension Law 34 of 1885, and the resolution of the Legislative Council of 23rd October 1885; while relief to the pension list was afforded to the extent of 1,504*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* by the removal from the list of 12 pensioners.

Of the total amount of pensions granted more than half was due to the changes in the judicial establishment consequent on the coming into operation of the Resident Magistrates Law.

Debt.

The sum of 57,800*l.* was raised during the year on account of the loan of 60,000*l.* authorised under Law 37 of 1887, "A Law to "grant temporary aid to the revenue." None of the tenders were below par, and in some instances a small premium, ranging from 1 per cent to 1*s.* per cent., was offered. Towards the end of the year the public were invited to invest in 32,100*l.* of debentures under the railway further Loan Laws 16 of 1887 and 36 of 1888, of which 4,100*l.* was under the former and 28,000*l.* under the latter Law. In response to the invitation tenders were received to the amount of 71,000*l.*, and premiums up to 1 per cent were offered

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The following sums were paid off from general revenue during the year, namely, 1,000*l.* of debt under Law 8 of 1871 on account of the old immigration loan; 1,400*l.* under Law 12 of 1879; 1,300*l.* under Laws 8 and 17 of 1880; and 1,800*l.* under Law 19 of 1880.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last 10 years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking fund actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt, viz.:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1879	718,608	11	11
1880	721,481	6	8
1881	920,924	19	4
1882	1,238,750	0	0
1883	1,257,916	2	1
1884	1,243,899	18	9
1885	1,427,458	14	2
1886	1,478,790	3	8
1887	1,491,993	3	9
1888	1,502,684	9	8

Of the above amount of debt on 30th September last 787,622*l.* was on account of the railway purchase, reconstruction, and extension, and 82,500*l.* on account of the Rio Cobre Canal.

The following are the amounts due for debentures raised on account of the several undertakings specified which have remained the same as last year, namely:—

	£
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks	128,200
Kingston markets	20,000
Kingston gasworks	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house	10,000

Legislative Council.

On the resignation of the Honourable John Thomson Palache, the Honourable John Powell Clark was on the 18th June 1888 elected a member for Manchester, and took his seat after the close of the financial year, viz., on the 1st October 1888.

Civil Establishment.

On the 7th May 1888 Governor Sir H. W. Norman proceeded on a visit to the Cayman Islands, and returned on the 17th idem. During his absence from Jamaica Colonel W. C. Justice, C.M.G., acted as Deputy Governor on appointment by the Governor under clause XII. of Letters Patent dated 29th of July 1887.

Sir H. W. Norman proceeded on leave of absence to England on the 25th of the same month, and Colonel Justice, C.M.G., succeeded to the administration of the Government as senior member of the Privy Council. Sir H. W. Norman returned to the island on the 27th August 1888.

Mr. Neale Porter, C.M.G., who had been appointed Colonial Secretary of Jamaica, assumed his duties in December 1887.

On the 2nd April 1888 an entire change took place in the lower judicial system of the Colony, in carrying out which the following appointments of Resident Magistrates were made :—

Kingston and St. Andrew, W. J. Anderson.
St. Thomas, Nathaniel Nathan.
Portland, R. G. Marsden.
Westmoreland, W. H. Hyndman Jones.
Clarendon, Jas. Allwood.
St. Ann, J. R. Reece.
St. Mary, J. V. Leach.
Manchester, E. Vickers.
Trelawny, A. B. Dignum.
St. James, R. A. Walcott.
Hanover, Alexander Lake.

For St. Elizabeth, Mr. W. Brandford Griffith, Queen's Advocate on the Gold Coast, was appointed Resident Magistrate, and pending his arrival Mr Arthur Levy performed the duties.

Public Works.

The total expenditure under all heads (except the railway) has been 78,071*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* Of this sum 30,097*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* has been expended on main roads and bridges, and 47,973*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* on salaries, services, maintenance of public buildings, Rio Cobre Canal, lighthouses, &c.

The cost of maintenance of main roads and bridges was 26,941*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, which shows an excess of 1,407*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* over the sum originally voted. This is attributable to the very heavy rains which occurred in the month of May, and caused considerable damage to the main roads throughout the island generally.

In the north-eastern division of the island the mean rainfall at the several stations where a record is kept was no less than 27·39, while at Port Antonio the fall was 71 inches, and at Boston the enormously heavy fall of 95 inches was registered in the month.

The average cost of main roads and bridges per mile was 34*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*, as against 37*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* last year and 36*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* the year before. It may be observed, however, that the heavy rains during the last three financial years have caused an increase in the average cost per mile of maintaining the main roads over that of the three preceding years, during which severe drought prevailed.

The great activity of business in logwood, coffee, fruit, and other products of the island has also greatly increased the wear and tear of the main roads. The condition of most of the main roads has been materially improved, which also goes to account for the increased average cost during the three years in question.

Several new works on main roads have been carried out during the year, such as widening and improving roads, building parapets,

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retaining walls, culverts, &c. A bridge has been put up over the Cane Side river, and an Irish bridge has been built at the entrance to Montego Bay from the eastward.

In addition to these work the following new works on main roads, which were not provided for in the estimates, were carried out by the Department of Public Works under special authority :—

Forming a groin and putting piling on the west bank of the Rio Grande in order to prevent the encroachment of that river on the main road from Port Antonio to Hope Bay.

Building a footbridge over the Devil's river on the road to Port Morant.

Restoring the road at Annotto Bay destroyed by the Wag Water, and building an embankment to prevent the further encroachment of that river on the town. This is a most important work, the river having already carried away several small huts on the beach to the north of the road and threatened the total destruction of the town.

Steps were also commenced for carrying into effect the provisions of Law 33 of 1887. "A law to enable the erection of bridges "over certain rivers in the parishes of St. Thomas, Portland, and "St. Mary," at a cost not exceeding 100,000*l.*, and thus supplying a want which has for so long a period been felt by the inhabitants of that part of the island and by travellers.

The expenditure for repairs to public buildings amounted to 12,399*l.* 12*s.*, and was for the usual maintenance, including 520 miles of telegraph lines at an average cost of 3*l.* 3*s.* per mile. Several new works on public buildings have been carried out during the year, the most important of which were erecting a new court-house and police station at Porus; carrying out extensive additions and alterations to the lunatic asylum. The new female ward has been completed to accommodate 50 patients.

At the public hospital, also, extensive improvements have been made.

A cadastral map of Trelawny has been prepared and issued.

Folly Point Lighthouse was completed and the light exhibited on the 1st March 1888. The benefits of this light to the thriving town of Port Antonio are very great, steamers being now able to enter at any hour of the night, a convenience of special importance to vessels engaged in the fruit trade.

A considerable number of parochial works, comprising the construction and repair of roads and bridges, &c., have been carried out by the Department of the Director of Public Works, and the officers of the Department have reported and advised on many other parochial works.

This is the first year of the operations of the Public Works Store Department since the amalgamation with the railway store was effected, and it has been found that the Department fulfils in all respects the purposes for which it was intended, and is a source of great convenience as well as economy to the Government. After paying salaries and labour bills, amounting to 1,075*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*, the Department has been worked at a net profit of 691*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

Lands.

During the year only one lot of land in Kingston was taken possession of under the 184th section of the District Courts Law, and a property in Portland was proceeded against; but the case was still pending at the close of the financial year.

The amount realised by the sale of Government lands during the year was 838*l.*, besides collections for rents.

Several surveys were made and a typographical map of the island was prepared.

Rio Cobre Canal.

The expenditure on these irrigation works during the year amounted to 1,526*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and showed a saving of 96*l.* 4*s.* on the amount voted, and at the close of the financial year the works were in fair order.

The revenue earned during the year amounted to 2,175*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* as compared with 2,118*l.* 14*s.* 6½*d.* earned during the year previous, and the actual collections of revenue amounted to 2,143*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* as against 2,280*l.* 11*s.* 9½*d.* collected in 1886–87. The amounts collected in the previous five years averaged 2,276*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* per annum.

Island Telegraphs.

The gross receipts during the year amounted to 4,447*l.* 18*s.*, showing an increase of 389*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* over those of the previous year. The expenditure on account of working expenses amounted to 4,212*l.* 15*s.* 3½*d.*, an increase of 211*l.* 0*s.* 7½*d.* over the previous year, the chief increase being 154*l.* 5*s.* 2½*d.* incurred on account of services.

The number of messages sent and received was 81,029, an increase of 7,248 over 1886–87.

A telegraph station was opened on the 1st May at the Post Office at Middle Quarters (Shaws) in the parish of St. Elizabeth.

Foreign telegrams were sent over the local telegraph lines on account of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company to the number of 1,135 and to the amount of 2,234*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, as against 819 in number and 1,452*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* in amount in the previous year.

During the year a school of telegraphy has been established wherein candidates for employment in the telegraph service are trained in telegraph as also in Post Office work. This school has proved a success and renders much assistance to the permanent staff.

Railways.

The gross receipts for the year amounted to 55,646*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, and the expenditure to 34,356*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, being 61·72 per cent. of receipts, and leaving a net revenue of 21,289*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*

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The gross receipts are in excess of those of last year by 11,375*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and the net receipts show an increase of 7,620*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

The receipts per mile of railway were 869*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* and the expenditure 536*l.*, against 691*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* and 478*l.* 3*s.* last year. The earnings per train mile were 5*s.* 8·02*d.*, the expenditure 3*s.* 5·99*d.* per train mile, while last year the rates were 4*s.* 9·88*d.* and 3*s.* 4·05*d.* respectively. The number of train miles run was 196,325.

The following statement shows the receipts for the year under review as compared with those of preceding years :—

——	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Goods and cattle -	29,811 15 3	23,286 15 2	16,959 10 3	13,484 15 7	12,198 12 11
Passengers - -	20,849 19 9	17,783 9 6	15,017 9 8	14,977 18 3	11,678 4 3
Wharf - - -	4,302 18 11	2,779 11 1	2,071 15 2	1,885 4 5	1,938 7 0
Miscellaneous - -	681 6 3	420 15 1	723 12 8	1,610 14 0	1,203 12 10
Total - -	55,646 0 2	44,270 10 10	34,772 7 9	31,958 12 3	27,018 17 0

The number of passengers carried during the year was 284,923, or 54,749 more than in 1886–87, an appreciable increase, which, however, still leaves the passenger traffic far below what it is expected to be when the advantages afforded are better realised.

The increase in goods and cattle revenue of 6,525*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* is due to the improvement in trade generally during the year, and to the large exportation of logwood consequent on the high price it has commanded.

The railway and rolling stock were maintained in good order during the year, 30 new waggons were constructed, and improvements made in the accommodation at the stations at Kingston, Gregory Park, May Pen, Four Paths, Porus, and Bog Walk. A new pier was built at the Princes Wharf, and has proved a valuable addition to the railway.

Considerable progress has been made with the surveys of the two proposed extensions from Bog Walk to Richmond, and from Porus to Skull Point.

Botanical Department.

The Department of Public Gardens and Plantations has done much useful work during the year, and the distribution and collection of valuable economic plants has been actively carried on.

The principal plantation and garden at "Hope," which is intended to take the place of "Castleton" as the head botanical station, has very favourably progressed towards its object, but a considerable period must elapse before this is quite attained, as the Hope Garden is still young, and the authorised annual expenditure is limited.

At the Cinchona plantation actual cultivation has ceased so far as planting operations are concerned, but the establishment there of a Hill Garden, which formed part of the recent scheme for the reorganization of the department, has been attended to.

No Cinchona bark was shipped during the year, but bark has been supplied to the Government analytical chemist for preparation of a liquid extract of a febrifuge manufactured according to a method adopted by Mr. Hooper, Government quinologist in the Nilgiris, and about to be tested by the Medical Department of the Colony.

The maintenance of Castleton Gardens as a botanical station has been continued, but its importance under the re-arrangement of the Gardens will be diminished. It supplies Hope Gardens and the island generally at present with plants.

These Gardens, although 19 miles from Kingston, attract a large number of visitors.

The Director calls attention to the propagation at Castleton of the manilla hemp plant, with a view to its introduction into different parts of the island, and he points out that if even the fibre is not utilized as an article of export, it may very conveniently supply a local demand for rope, and so save such a valuable timber tree as the "mahoe," of which large numbers are annually destroyed by the peasantry by being stripped of their bark, which is twisted into ropes.

Another interesting circumstance alluded to by the Director in his Report on the Castleton Garden is the successful experiment of grafting the mangosteen (which, although growing at Castleton for many years, has only recently reached the fruiting stage) upon the "gamboge" tree of common growth.

Education.

Judged by the following statistics the work of the Education Department progressed in a marked manner during the year under review :—

Year.	Schools on Government List.	Schools passed on inspection.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in average attendance.	Per-centage in average attendance of number on Books.	Class of Schools.					Not Inspected.	Fees.	Grants in aid, including 1,500*l.* Building Grants.
						I.	II.	III.	F.	E.			
												£ s.	£ s.
1887-88	771	756	71,643	41,920	58·5	100	280	362	8	6	15	7,904 11	24,895 4
1886-87	725	677	62,424	35,613	57	91	235	341	9	1	48	6,738 6	21,587 16

An increase is shown of 46 schools on the Government list, and of 79 schools passed on inspection; while the scholars in average

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attendance have increased by the large number of 6,307 during the year. This gratifying result is ascribed in a measure, by one of the assistant inspectors, to the proper appreciation by the parents of the better teaching power now available; but other influences, such as the prosperity of the masses and the favourable weather, must be taken into consideration as bearing to a much larger degree upon the result.

The increase on school fees paid this year—being more than 1,200*l.* above last year's receipts, and larger than in any previous year—is only in proportion to the increase in the attendance, and gives no evidence of a more general appreciation by parents of their duty in this respect. It may be, however, that a lurking idea prevails that the schools being largely aided by Government the people have a right to share without cost in their advantages.

The results of the annual examination of teachers and students in training colleges, which was held in December 1887, were satisfactory; the per-centage of full passes was higher than in the previous year, and, in addition, the inspector mentions that 20 students were allowed a partial pass entitling them to be presented in a higher standard the next year.

In connexion with what has been remarked of the higher teaching power now available, it should be noticed that 17 teachers came up for examination this year, and nine obtained certificates, a much larger proportion than last year, when five out of 14 passed.

There are now about 42 teachers holding first-class certificates, and the working of the training colleges may be trusted from evidence of what has been accomplished to largely add to the number in a few years. Thus the great want in the past history of attempts at education in this Colony will have been supplied, as far as male teachers are concerned. A gratifying feature in the operations of the department for the last year or two has been the training of female teachers at the Government Training College at Shortwood. The operations in the same direction of the Moravians at Salem, and of the Church of England at St. Mary's, both in St. Elizabeth parish, are full of encouragement.

It appears from the inspector's report that a Revised Code for teachers' certificate examination has just been issued, and will come into operation in 1889. It does not materially enhance the difficulty of the examination it is said, but it is simply brought more into conformity with the revised regulations for the examination of training colleges, which must be a decided improvement.

The Shortwood Female Training College, to which allusion has been already made, is reported as showing all the improvement during the year which could have been hoped for; but the small mental calibre and deficient attainments of many of the girls who

have been admitted to it are drawbacks to the success of the institution. The inspector speaks of the small proportion of girls who come up for examination who are properly prepared for examination. Female education of a higher class in this Colony is at present in its infancy, and requires much careful nursing.

*Immigration.**

There were 1,002 East Indian and Chinese immigrants under indenture in this Colony at the end of the calendar year 1888, up to which date the Protector makes up his annual report.

No fresh immigrants were introduced during the year, although the Protector reports that 540 were applied for, and that other applications would have come in had the terms of introduction been more advantageous to planters.

One return East Indian ship, the "Foyle," sailed for Calcutta with 553 time-expired immigrants on the 16th May 1888. The sum carried away by these people in money amounted to 6,649*l.*, and their show of gold and silver jewellery was larger than is usual. The prosperous appearance of these people when they landed at Calcutta attracted the attention of the "Calcutta Englishman" newspaper, which devoted some space to a description of them.

The death rate of the East Indian immigrants during the year was 2·28 per cent. as against 2·66 per cent. the year before, and the birth rate 2·09 per cent. against 1·11 per cent.

The Chinese death rate was ·46 per cent. against 1·23 per cent., and the birth rate ·30 against ·92 for the same periods.

There were no murders among the East Indian population during the year.

There were 1,002 East Indian and Chinese immigrants serving under indenture on the 31st December last, 1,858 immigrants who had not completed a residence of 10 years, and 10,206 of these people who had completed the term. In all there were 13,066 East Indian immigrants and Chinese, but of the latter the proportion was small.

Emigration.

Under this head Sir Henry Norman has remarked as follows in the *ad interim* report, to which I have already alluded:—

"There has been a considerable decrease in the number of emigrants who have left Jamaica, although efforts are made to induce them to leave for railway work at Port Limon as well as for work on the Isthmus Canal; 11,601 persons left in 1886–87, and only 6,131 left in 1887–88, while 5,651 returned."

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* *See also* Colonial Possessions Report No. 53.

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Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows for the last 10 years :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1878–79	6,341	294,589
1879–80	7,297	333,970
1880–81	7,970	342,339
1881–82	9,543	324,847
1882–83	11,925	325,705
1883–84	13,601	350,546
1884–85	15,511	360,190
1885–86	16,320	363,292
1886–87	17,047	363,481
1887–88	18,311	393,250

showing an increase of 29,769*l.* in the amount of deposits in the year and of 1,264 in the number of depositors.

In the above amount of deposits are included five deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Immigration Return Passage Fund -	12,634	15	3
Constabulary Reward Fund - -	668	10	3
Sinking funds - - - -	5,644	12	7
Constabulary Pension Fund - -	3	5	8
Smith and Beckford's Charity - -	31	17	8

There were also 193 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery suits, Administrator General, and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 9,897*l.* 3*s.* The remaining 18,311 accounts, representing 365,744*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, are all ordinary and legitimate savings bank deposits.

Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 11,964 were for 5*l.* and under, and only 723 were for over 100*l.* It is pleasing to note this continued increase of small accounts, as it indicates that the bank is very successfully serving its purpose, and that its usefulness is appreciated by the classes for whose benefit it was established.

The assets of the bank at 30th September last were distributed as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Invested in 2¾ per cent. consols -	20,404	17	3
New South Wales inscribed stock, 3½ per cent. - - -	31,558	11	3
Canada inscribed stock, 3½ per cent.	2,986	6	2
Victoria „ 4 „ -	12,015	0	0
Ceylon „ 4 „ -	14,400	0	0
Canadian debentures 4 „ -	53,990	12	6
Victoria „ 4½ and 4 „ -	47,308	12	6
New South Wales debentures, 4 per cent - - -	60,997	10	0
Cape of Good Hope debentures, 4½ per cent. - - -	46,556	0	0
Jamaica debentures, 4½ and 5 per cent. - - - -	25,830	5	8
South Australian debentures, 4 per cent. - - - -	53,531	2	6
Planters' promissory notes -	4	10	0
	369,583	7	10
Cash in Colonial Bank - -	24,792	3	4
„ office chest - -	159	3	2
Total - - -	394,534	14	4

During the year 4,100 accounts were opened and 2,837 closed, showing a net increase of 1,263 accounts, an improvement on the net result for last year by 536. The number of deposits amounted to 28,593, and withdrawals to 29,422, representing respectively 204,936*l.* and 185,615*l.*

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors amounted to 13,252*l.* 13*s.* 10½*d.*, while the revenue realised was 14,327*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*, thus showing a net profit of 1,074*l.* 14*s.* 0½*d.* on the year's transactions.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows :—

	£
1878–79 - - - -	1,347,342
1879–80 - - - -	1,475,197
1880–81 - - - -	1,392,699

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	£
1881–82 - - - -	1,321,962
1882–83 - - - -	1,625,411
1883–84 - - - -	1,568,639
1884–85 - - - -	1,487,833
1885–86 - - - -	1,325,603
1886–87 - - - -	1,351,394*
1887–88 - - - -	1,695,605

thus showing a large increase of 344,211*l.* over the value of imports in the previous year, and an improvement on the best of the nine preceding years.

The value of goods entered for home consumption amounted to 1,732,115*l.*, or 380,721*l.*, over that in the previous year, which stood at 1,351,394*l.*, and this may be divided into three classes thus:—

	1887–88.	1886–87.
	£	£
Ad valorem goods - - -	795,756	580,054
Rated goods - - -	653,579	601,781
Free goods - - - -	282,780	165,559

The chief items of increase are under food-stuffs, although in some instances there are decreases under this head.

Ales, spirits, wines, oil, and soap also show large increases, and, to a smaller extent, lumber.

The increase in food-stuffs is attributed to the scarcity of esculents, which were largely exported to Colon, while that in liquors and oil is believed to be due to the idea which prevailed, when the proposal to amend the tariff was under consideration, that heavier duties would be imposed thereon, and which induced importers to obtain larger supplies.

The imports were drawn from the several countries in the following proportions:—

United Kingdom - - -	62·8 per cent.
Canada - - - -	6·6 „
United States - - -	27·7 „
Other countries - - -	2·9 „

showing a large increase in the proportion of trade with the United Kingdom, which was 55·5 per cent. in the preceding year, and a falling off in respect of importations from Canada, the United States, and other countries.

* *Sic* 1,322,336*l.*

The following table, showing the value of imported articles which were freed from duty in the tariff under Law 11 of 1867, is given in continuation of similar tables in previous Reports:—

—	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines -	7,306	2,802	20,709	10,380	14,199	12,604	9,268	10,704	4,287	4,569
Mills - -	5,724	2,661	1,702	2,203	1,563	2,516	862	257	564	722
Other machinery -	3,402	3,323	5,075	3,260	5,324	6,618	2,509	3,553	2,442	12,569
Pans for boiling sugar.	2,124	6,132	1,190	809	2,025	1,067	—	201	435	203
Pipes for fluids -	1,193	1,435	1,534	2,600	3,512	4,358	2,365	8,205	3,472	3,028
Stills - -	433	696	5,217	1,777	1,489	312	72	1,102	998	345
Shooks of all sorts	7,460	8,488	4,379	12,424	13,724	13,520	11,588	7,149	13,649	17,974
Staves - -	4,524	10,519	3,299	10,645	6,148	10,590	9,052	3,375	3,822	4,952
Wood hoops -	1,643	1,919	756	1,932	1,923	1,047	1,107	855	978	1,841
Iron, galvanized -	2,097	974	5,156	3,595	9,469	8,649	4,758	3,132	3,036	3,147
„ other manufactures.	—	1,344	4,964	14	433	1,109	—	—	—	683
Miscellaneous -	4,689	4,592	7,443	5,015	7,118	5,242	4,854	4,339	2,608	4,443
	40,798	64,885	61,415	54,654	66,927	67,632	46,435	42,872	36,291	54,476

These figures do not call for any special remark, but it may be observed that the very large increase under machinery is due chiefly to the importation of machinery for the manufacture of ice.

The value of the exports in each of the last 10 years is shown below:—

Year.	Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1878–79 - -	1,262,869	94,702	1,357,571
1879–80 - -	1,427,144	85,834	1,512,978
1880–81 - -	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594
1881–82 - -	1,471,917	77,141	1,549,058
1882–83 - -	1,365,868	103,578	1,469,446
1883–84 - -	1,350,900	133,089	1,483,989
1884–85 - -	1,181,203	227,645	1,408,848
1885–86 - -	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886–87 - -	1,334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887–88 - -	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590

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This shows an increase of 327,136*l.* in export of island produce and a decrease of 7,553*l.* in goods re-exported, leaving a net increase of 319,580*l.*; and it will be seen that the total value of exports this year exceeds that of any of the nine preceding years.

This marked improvement is chiefly the result of increases on account of cocoa, 2,326*l.*; cocoanuts, 11,683*l.*; coffee, 112,295*l.*; bananas, 124,639*l.*; oranges, 6,390*l.*; ginger, 1,673*l.*; horses and mules, 2,036*l.*; sugar, 13,865*l.*; cigars, 1,378*l.*, and logwood, 161,623*l.*

It is especially gratifying to note the satisfactory return realised from coffee, prices having been good during the year, indicating, as it does, a benefit to the small settlers by whom the greater portion is now grown.

It is also gratifying to note the rapid advance of the banana trade, the quantity of bananas exported having exceeded the best of the previous five years by 68 per cent. The number of horses exported was 100 as against 18 in the previous year, and nearly twice the quantity of logwood was shipped, while the upward tendency of sugar, notwithstanding low prices, must also be noticed with satisfaction.

On the other hand, the exports have diminished to some extent in beeswax, hides, lancewood spars, rum, fustic, and yams, also annotto and pimento, which show a decrease in value, but an increase in quantity.

The value of each of the several articles of island produce exported bears the following per-centage proportion to their total aggregate value.

	1883–84.	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.
Sugar - - - -	31·7	26·1	18·8	19·8	17·3
Rum - - - -	16·3	19·8	17·1	22·6	12·2
Coffee - - - -	7·3	13·3	11·1	15·6	19·3
Dyewoods - - -	10·3	13·2	18·1	14·4	21·2
Fruit - - - -	20·3	15·4	21·5	16·2	21·6
Pimento - - - -	6·9	4·5	4·3	3·4	2·7
Other - - - -	7·2	7·7	9·1	8·	5·7

The exports of the principal staples in the last 10 years are shown in the following table :—

—	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Sugar - - hhds.	29,151	32,117	21,056	38,392	30,783
Rum - - phns.	18,792	18,586	13,952	22,742	20,085
Coffee - - lbs.	10,832,127	10,188,897	9,846,096	7,418,638	9,448,100
Pimento - - lbs.	5,881,176	10,215,479	6,058,264	8,514,517	9,551,630
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	58,658	48,024	45,459	33,409	33,108
Ginger - - lbs.	769,636	889,847	751,494	608,384	836,889
Arrowroot - lbs.	7,982	4,480	1,888	5,116	2,515
Fruit, value - £	51,295	51,295	44,216	124,269	132,962

(*continued*).

—	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
Sugar - - hhds.	29,427	24,986	16,460	23,043	24,524
Rum - - phns.	20,364	20,805	14,763	24,126	18,684
Coffee - - lbs.	4,295,994	9,033,606	6,150,960	6,337,742	11,084,080
Pimento - - lbs.	12,372,863	6,794,078	6,919,087	7,335,712	7,454,608
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	46,724	57,533	65,082	63,114	103,364
Ginger - - lbs.	1,359,321	9,379,056	1,193,158	1,111,926	1,144,864
Arrowroot - lbs.	3,655	1,008	1,010	1,693	3,092
Fruit, value - £	253,021	181,650	231,522	215,583	337,403

The several increases and decreases apparent in these figures have been already commented on.

The exports from the Colony during the past eight years were distributed among the different countries in the following proportions :—

—	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
United Kingdom -	66·5	62·5	54·46	43·4	37·2	39·7	38·6	40·2
Dominion of Canada -	6·2	12·9	16·66	13·4	5·4	3·5	1·3	1·6
United States -	18·9	17·8	19·07	31·1	42·2	44·	43·9	43·2
Other countries -	8·4	6·8	6·81	12·1	15·2	12·8	16·2	15·0

Showing an improvement in our trade with the United Kingdom, and very little change in respect to other places.

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Agricultural.

In reviewing the statistics of the agriculture of the Colony which the Collector General presents with his annual report, it is evident that the past year has been one of much prosperity to the cultivators of the soil generally.

While it is much to be regretted that year by year the area of land under cane cultivation has decreased, still it is some satisfaction to observe that the exports of sugar and rum have not decreased in the same proportion, thus indicating an improved system of cultivation and manufacture. Other industries, however, notably the cultivation of fruit, principally bananas, have more correspondingly increased. The returns do not show the number of acres under banana cultivation, as the law does not require this to be specified for purposes of the tax, but the importance of the industry may be judged by the quantity exported. This rose to double the quantity exported in 1886–87, viz., 1,250,459 bunches, or nearly 68 per cent. in excess of the best year of the quinquennium. It is the opinion of good authority that, with a remunerative market and facilities for transport, there is every prospect of each succeeding year witnessing the further development of the industry, which is one most largely shared in by peasant cultivators. In the per-centage proportion to the total exports of the island fruit ranks at 21·6.

In the export of agricultural products during the past year, coffee comes next to fruit with a per-centage of 19·3 as against 15·6 in the previous year, and the increase in the acreage under cultivation is returned at 2,142 acres above the previous year.

Of minor products, ginger, for which Jamaica is celebrated, shows an increase of 128 acres.

Cocoa growing is now a very promising young industry. It had been a prominent one in the earliest days of the English occupation of the island, but completely died out, and has within very recent years been revived.

Police.

The police force on the 30th September 1888 consisted of 1 inspector general, 14 inspectors, 4 sub-inspectors, 119 non-commissioned officers, and 562 men, being a total of 700 of all ranks, or 11 below the allowed strength for the year; the strength of the rural headmen of police was 217, thus giving an effective police establishment at the end of the year of 917.

The regular police were distributed as follows during the year: 185 in Kingston, 447 in the 13 other parishes of the island, and 49 at the depôt at Spanish Town.

The services rendered by the constabulary during the year as compared with previous years are as follow :—

	1883–84.	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.
Number of persons arrested on view and on information	5,994	5,106	5,148	4,849	5,334
Number of persons apprehended on warrants		1,394	1,753	1,729	1,674
Number of search warrants executed	102	64	85	82	75
Number of persons summoned	27,545	11,452	—	12,956	14,297
Number of persons subpœnaed		15,112	11,707	17,832	22,472
Number of seizures under revenue laws	663	587	333	393	465
Number of post-mortems ordered	287	270	337	338	319
Number of prisoners escorted	7,324	7,068	9,798	9,081	8,050

The criminal returns for the year show 15 cases of murder, including five cases of child murder, of which two were convicted, and the remainder acquitted. There were 13 cases of manslaughter, being a decrease of six compared with the previous year, of which two were discharged for want of evidence or prosecution, four were acquitted, four were convicted, including one case left over in 1887, and four remained undisposed of on 30th September.

Of other offences against the person, concealing birth shows a decrease of four compared with the previous year.

There were 222 cases of cutting and wounding, which it is satisfactory to observe indicates a continued decrease in this class of crime ; 113 of these were convicted.

Of the two cases of shooting with intent, which appear in the returns furnished by the Inspector General, one was discharged and the other remained undisposed of at the end of the year under review.

Unnatural offences exceeded those of the previous four years, but the Inspector General is of opinion that this does not indicate an increase of the crime, but a greater desire on the part of the people to bring the offenders to justice when detected.

Of the more serious offences against property committed with violence, breaking into dwelling-houses and stealing, and breaking into shops, warehouses, and counting-houses and stealing, show a slight increase in the former crime compared with the previous year, and a decrease in the latter.

The figures, with remanets from 1886–87, were 84 and 55 respectively in 1887–88, against 82 and 72 in 1886–87. Thirty-one cases of shopbreaking occurred in Kingston, being an increase on the two previous years. Nearly all the premises were entered from unenclosed lands out of view of the constable's beat. Some

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diminution has taken place in the number of premises found open at night during the year, but many owners of property continue to be very careless in the protection of their shops, &c. against thieves. One hundred and sixty-eight places in Kingston were found open at night by the police during the year compared with 344 in 1886–87.

Of offences against property committed without violence, larceny of small stock, larceny of dyewoods, receiving stolen goods, larceny of money, &c., show an increase over those of 1886–87; but larceny in dwelling-houses, larceny of ground provisions, simple and prædial larceny show a decrease.

Arson increased to a large extent during the year; the returns show 29 cases against 15 last year.

Feloniously wounding stock also shows an increase; in this crime there were 39 cases against 29 in 1886–87. The delay which usually occurs before these crimes are reported to the police renders detection of the offenders very difficult. The suppression of cruelty to animals, and furious and careless riding and driving, has engaged the attention of the constabulary, and the result generally has been satisfactory.

The force continued to render good service in connexion with the Vaccination, Sanitary, Weights and Measures, Birds and Fish Protection, and Sugar Mills Laws.

Over 7,500 adults and children were vaccinated during the year through the instrumentality of the police.

Forty-eight persons were summoned for offences under the Birds and Fish Protection Law, and 108 under the Sugar Mills Law.

The dog nuisance in Kingston also received attention, and the exertions of the police in that direction were attended with some good results.

Prisons.

The number of prisoners in custody in all the prisons and gaols of the island on the 30th September 1888 was 749, a decrease of 46 as compared with the previous year. The numbers in each of the last five years have been as follows:—

1884	-	-	-	-	750
1885	-	-	-	-	782
1886	-	-	-	-	803
1887	-	-	-	-	795
1888	-	-	-	-	749

There were 3,151 commitments to all the prisons during the year, a decrease of 435 compared with the previous year; the reconvictions were 1,003, being also a decrease of 184.

There were 17 deaths in the General Penitentiary during the year. Of this number 11 were cases of prisoners in an impaired state of health when admitted to prison. 13 deaths occurred in the other prisons, all from natural causes.

The net cost of all the prisons amounted to 13,149*l.* 7*s.* 0¼*d.*, or 17*l.* 0*s.* 2½*d.* per prisoner per annum, the figures for the previous year being 13,832*l.* 14*s.* 4¾*d.* and 17*l.* 10*s.* 2½*d.* respectively. The gross earnings in cash were 3,623*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*

The estimated value of labour yielding no return in money was 4,028*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; in 1886–87 it was 3,555*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*

The prisoners were as usual employed in brickmaking, lime-burning, quarrying stone, and in washing clothing for the prisons and for public institutions. The value of the washing was 685*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*, or 121*l.* 8*s.* less than the previous year.

School was held regularly in the General Penitentiary, and was also established in the St. Catherine's, Falmouth, and Hanover district prisons, where it is likely to prove useful. Suitable books were furnished to the district prisons.

Religious services were also conducted regularly at the General Penitentiary by the paid chaplains of the different denominations attached to the institution. The convicts in the other prisons were dependent for religious instruction on the time and attention which ministers of religion were able to devote to them.

Discipline was well maintained in the General Penitentiary, and arrangements were made for commencing the "mark system" there on the 1st of October 1888, from which considerable advantage is anticipated.

Vital Statistics.

The total estimated population at the close of the year ended 30th September was 617,446, being an increase of 36,642 since the census of 1881.

The natural increase of the population by excess of births over deaths was 10,329 as against 6,323 in the previous year, and shows a high rate of increase compared with the average annual addition for the preceding seven years, which was 8,127. The emigration of labourers to the Isthmus of Panama and Port Limon is chargeable with a total net loss to the population of 682 persons.

The births registered during the year numbered 24,025, a rate of 39·1 per 1,000 of the population, a higher rate than in any previous year of registration. Of this number 12,163 were males and 11,862 females. 14,570, or 60·6 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, being a higher average rate than in the preceding years. The parish of St. Catherine showed the highest rate, 78·4 per cent., and Manchester the lowest, 50·3 per cent.

13,696 deaths were registered, being in the proportion of 22·3 to each 1,000 of the estimated mean population, and showing a decrease of 945 compared with the year 1886–87.

The deaths of females exceeded those of males by 245, and the excess of male births was 301, a net addition to the male population of 546 in the year, and of 1,652 in the 10 years of registration: The deaths not medically certified amounted to the large number of 11,088, or 80·9 per cent. It would not, however, be safe to

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take these figures as an accurate measure of the extent to which medical aid is availed of. It is alleged that in some instances proper application has doubtless not been made to the doctor for his certificate, and that the remoteness of the location of some of the inhabitants of the country districts from the residence of a doctor prevents them from obtaining medical aid at all times, and hence it happens that though there may have been medical attendance during the earlier stage of a fatal illness, it has not been so continued as to admit of medical certificates as to cause of death being obtained.

3,353 marriages were registered during the year, an increase over the previous year of 690, the rate being 5·4, an advance upon all former rates. The per-centage of illiterate persons among those married is 57·3 as against 55·8 last year. 49·8 per cent. of the men married were unable to write, and 64·8 per cent. of the women.

180 births were registered in the Cayman Islands, 95 being males and 85 females.

The deaths numbered 25, and there were 27 marriages during the year.

General.

My assumption of the Government has been so recent that I must confine myself to a brief glance at the course of events of the year, so far as they present themselves in the reports which have been placed before me of the working of the several departments of the public service of Jamaica. This is of the less importance, seeing that in his Despatch of the 17th December last, Sir Henry Norman on the eve of his departure from the Colony forwarded to your Lordship a somewhat full *ad interim* report.

2. A complete change took place in the arrangement of the lower courts of justice, and it is believed from what has been seen of the working of the new Resident Magistrate's courts that the speedy and efficient administration of justice is attained by the measure which superseded the district courts of the Colony.

3. The statistics show that there has been a revival of trade and an increase of agricultural and commercial activity generally throughout the island. The nominal value of property insured against fire amounted in the year to 3,746,000*l.*

4. It is further an indication of moral progress when it is found that provision is largely made year by year by means of life insurance for the needs of families in the event of the death of the breadwinner, and the year just past shows that new policies to the extent of 38,400*l.* were taken out in this island as against 22,400*l.* last year.

5. The year 1887–88 shows a bank circulation of 152,091*l.*, against 126,566*l.* and 124,149*l.* in the two previous years respectively.

6. Owing to the railway extensions of recent years, although they are of comparatively small length, and to the establishment of mail coaches, tapping surrounding country and communicating at different points with the railway lines, which have step by step followed the railway extensions, the means of locomotion have greatly increased, with benefit doubtless to the social as well as material condition of the people of the Colony at large.

7. In this year occurred the Jubilee of the Emancipation of the Slaves in Jamaica and the other West Indian possessions of Great Britain. The progress made by the descendants of the slaves of half a century ago is to some extent shown by the remarks which I have made in the preceding paragraphs.

8. The peace of the Colony has not been disturbed in any way. The general disposition of the people is to obey the law, and to respect constituted authority.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 52.

JAMAICA.

(TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.)

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 13.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1889.



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No.	Colony.	Year.
9	Heligoland	1887
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11	Straits Settlements	"
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	"
17	Bermuda	"
18	St. Helena	"
19	Barbados	"
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	"
21	Bahamas	"
22	Labuan	"
23	Malta	"
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	"
25	St. Vincent	"
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	"
27	Leeward Islands	"
28	British Guiana	"
29	Western Australia	"
30	Falkland Islands	"
31	Basutoland	"
32	St. Lucia	"
33	Hong Kong	"
34	Fiji	"
35	British Honduras	"
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
37	Ceylon	"
38	British New Guinea	"
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	"
43	Victoria	"
44	British Bechuanaland	"
45	New Guinea	"
46	Newfoundland	"
47	New Zealand	1888
48	Heligoland	"
49	Gibraltar	"
50	Bermuda	"
51	Trinidad	"

No. 52.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

Governor Sir H. A. BLAKE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

King's House, Jamaica,
March 29, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying copy of the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands, and the Commissioner's Report thereon, for the year 1887–88.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1888.

1. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

The receipts for 1888 amounted to 6,452*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, being slightly in excess of those for the previous year, owing to a larger shipment of salt. There was a balance for 1887 of 1,971*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, which, added to the receipts, gave a gross revenue of 8,424*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*

The expenditure for 1888 amounted to 7,179*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*, or 801*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* more than in 1887. The increase was entirely due to the hurricane which visited these islands in September last, and caused an expenditure for relief of the sufferers from its effects, and for the repairs of damage to Government property, which amounted on the 31st December to 1,084*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* But for this calamity the expenditure for 1888 would have been nearly the smallest on record. After defraying the whole of the liabilities for 1888 there still remains a balance in the treasury of 1,244*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, besides the sum of 1,000*l.* invested in England to meet any sudden emergency.

2. *Public Works.*

No new works were undertaken in 1888, except the erection of a light tower at the north-west point of Salt Cay and drainage

works, which were carried out at Grand Turk to reclaim a swamp lying at the back of the Salinas, and to windward of a thickly populated suburb of the town. The light tower at Salt Cay has been completed very satisfactorily, and stood the hurricane without damage. The light, however, did not come up to the specification, and the makers have consented to supply another, free of cost. The remaining expenditure under this head was chiefly caused by the repairs of damage done by the hurricane to Government property, and by the repairs to tanks, as advantage was taken of the severe drought, which left the public tanks dry, to put them into thorough order.

3. *Legislation.*

There were only four laws passed in 1888, two being the usual supply ordinances, and one an ordinance to sanction a pension to the clerk to the judge on abolition of his office. The fourth was a Pilotage Amendment Act, to exempt mail vessels from pilotage, which was compulsory on all vessels; and also to give the Government power to compel the removal of vessels stranded in places where they are liable to become a danger to navigation.

4. *Civil Establishment.*

Mr. C. H. Robarts, who had been absent from the Settlement since the 15th November 1887, resigned his post of judge of the Supreme Court on the 18th April, and Mr. E. H. Johnson, who had been acting judge in Mr. Robarts' absence, was appointed to succeed him. Mr. A. W Harriott was appointed Assistant Commissioner at Grand Turk in succession to the late Mr. Rigby. The offices of clerk to the Commissioner and boarding officer, which had been heretofore combined, were separated by Order in Council, and Mr. E. C. Harriott was appointed clerk to the Commissioner and to the Legislative Board, Mr. E. R. Spencer being appointed to the separate post of boarding officer and locker. Mr. J. W. Milbourn was appointed keeper of the gaol, and there were a few other minor changes. The Commissioner was absent on leave from April to October, his duties up to the end of June being performed by Mr. A. W. Harriott, and afterwards by the judge of the Supreme Court.

5. *Pensions.*

Mr. A. Selver, late assistant lighthouse keeper, who drew a pension of 27*l.* 6*s.*, died in October; and one pension was added, viz., 48*l.* per. annum to the late keeper of the gaol, Mr. A. H. Coverley.

6. *Education.*

There was a general inspection of the schools during the year, for the first time since 1885, with the result that the whole of the schools showed a slight falling off, owing chiefly, I believe, to the infrequency of inspection. As regular inspection has now been provided for, I trust the schools may improve; but there is a tendency among the parents to keep their children at home unless they can dress them smartly and give them shoes and stockings, which they would be much better without on these sandy reefs. The severe drought from which these islands have suffered throughout the year had a good deal to do with the diminished attendance, as the children were required to bring water from the wells dug in the beach, which formed the only sources of supply to the poorer classes. One schoolmaster died in August and another resigned in December, and the schools at Kew and Blue Hills are at present closed in consequence. The Inspector of schools in Jamaica is kindly trying to find men to take the vacant schools, but has not so far been successful.

7. *Imports and Exports.*

The imports were fully up to the average, and were only 7*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* less than in 1887. The exports were rather more than in the previous year, as 1,287,980 bushels of salt were exported as against 1,152,302 bushels in 1887, giving a royalty of 1,878*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* against 1,680*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, with a corresponding increase in the light dues. The salt crop was one of the best on record, as not less than 2,200,000 bushels were raked, which, added to the 300,000 bushels in stock from the previous year, gave two and a half millions in stock. Nearly half a million bushels were blown away during the hurricane in September, reducing the stock available for export to a little over two million bushels. There is little doubt that the export would have been larger than it was but for the ill-advised action of some persons who sent telegrams to the press announcing the heavy loss of salt from the hurricane, but omitting to state that a large stock remained on hand. The importers abroad, misled by this news, counter-ordered the vessels which would otherwise have been sent here, and the export in October and November, usually the busiest months, dropped suddenly to far below the average, at a time when employment was sorely needed to help the labourers, who had been deprived by the hurricane of houses, clothes, and everything else they possessed. At the end of the year fully three-quarters of a million bushels of salt remained on hand, and the demand has since revived.

Tables are attached showing the trade as compared with former years, and also the rainfall.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

SCHEDULE of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the PUBLIC REVENUE for the year 1888 in comparison with the preceding year 1887.

	1887.			1888.		
Imports.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Alcohol	5	0	0	1	12	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c.	11	19	6	5	5	8
Bay water	18	4	0	6	0	0
Bread	13	4	3	14	4	5
Butter	65	17	3	64	2	8
Cheese	21	13	6	24	10	5
Cigars	4	14	0	4	1	3
Flour, wheat	461	18	2	495	2	0
Lard	78	15	9	77	7	9
Lumber and shingles	89	11	2	97	5	8
Meat, salted and cured	185	14	7	192	1	9
Oils	40	19	5	32	16	9
Paint in oil	26	5	4	7	7	0
Rice	60	8	9	68	8	11
Rum, brandy, gin, cordials, &c.	789	16	2	821	11	9
Soap	43	9	0	38	19	3
Sugar	246	3	9	268	1	9
Tea	35	5	0	40	16	6
Tobacco	45	8	8	44	2	4
Wine	26	0	1	28	12	9
Ad valorem duties	793	5	0	723	8	0
	3,063	13	1	3,055	18	7
Other Sources of Revenue.						
Royalty of 10 per cent. ad valorem on salt exported: in 1887—1,152,302 bushels; in 1888—1,287,980 bushels	1,680	10	2	1,878	7	4
Light duties	554	10	0	623	9	4
Auction duties	13	11	5	53	16	9
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	66	8	6	34	3	6
Fees of office	73	12	2	83	2	9
Postage	156	17	10	171	14	5
Post Office Money Order commissions	28	7	0	29	5	7
Liquor licenses	100	0	0	100	0	0
Wine „	58	0	0	58	0	0
Dog Tax	13	1	0	14	14	0
Sales, Crown land	118	5	6	58	15	2
Lease „ „	67	9	3	72	6	3
Wharfage and Storage	37	0	11	65	5	7
Miscellaneous	131	9	2	113	19	6
Special	40	0	0	40	0	0
	3,139	2	11	3,397	0	2
Recapitulation.						
Imports	3,063	13	1	3,055	18	7
Other sources	3,139	2	11	3,397	0	2
	6,202	16	0	6,452	18	9
Balance from 1886 and 1887	2,146	16	4	1,971	2	10
	8,349	12	4	8,434	1	7
Expenditure for 1887 and 1888	6,378	9	6	7,179	12	1
Balance for 1888 and 1889	1,971	2	10	1,244	9	6

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the years 1886, 1887, and 1888.

Articles.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salt - - - -	27,000 2 7	21,409 7 8	19,865 11 8
Sponge - - - -	282 5 10	282 5 0	287 9 8
Shells, &c. - - -	142 0 0	286 0 0	32 18 0
Total - -	27,424 8 5	21,977 12 8	20,185 19 4

VALUE of IMPORTS for the years 1886, 1887, and 1888.

—	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - -	30,165 5 2	26,726 8 4	28,268 3 11

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the Seven Years 1880 to 1886; and actual EXPORT for 1887 and 1888.

Ports.	1880 to 1886.	1887.	1888.
Grand Turk - -	600,688	336,760	475,942
Salt Cay - - -	455,116	369,706	466,026
Cockburn Harbour -	485,760	445,836	346,012
Total Bushels -	1,541,564	1,152,302	1,287,980

Salt in the Colony on 31st December 1885 - 450,000 bushels.
" " " 1886 - 50,000 "
" " " 1887 - 300,000 "
" " " 1888 - 750,000 "

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

RAINFALL for the year 1888 compared with the average for the previous Seven Years.

Month.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January - - -	·92	·87	·74	3·15
February - -	·32	·32	2·44	3·58
March - - -	·79	·88	·58	·55
April - - -	·30	·14	·85	1·50
May - - -	·81	1·01	1·51	6·16
June - - -	·46	1·33	·21	1·80
July - - -	·41	·38	·24	1·68
August - - -	·37	·70	2·20	1·47
September - -	4·98	3·97	5·02	17·12
October - - -	·95	·32	·49	3·18
November - -	1·42	1·67	2·77	1·60
December - -	5·17	5·02	7·58	8·66
Total inches - -	16·90	16·61	24·63	50·45
Average for seven years, 1881 to 1887 - -	27·30	24·63	24·44	44·50

8. *Agriculture.*

The tenants at the Kew Settlement have all now purchased the lands they formerly occupied but refused to pay rent for, so that the cancelling of the leases has led to a most desired result. The long continued drought last year, however, destroyed all the crops, and the hurricane completed their ruin by breaking down the banana and plantain trees. The experience of the last ten years has shown that at least once in three years the rainfall in the Caicos is insufficient to nourish a crop which will feed the people who grow it, and that it is only in about three years out of every five that they may expect to have any surplus to dispose of to procure clothing or other necessaries. In these conditions one of three results is certain, either the lands must be gradually abandoned and the people must seek work elsewhere, or the Government must be prepared to provide periodically for the wants of an ever-increasing pauper population, or some new cultivation must be introduced which will support the people engaged in it. Against the first alternative the people appear to be resolutely set, and they prefer to starve in their wretched huts in these isolated villages sooner than move to the salt-raking islands, where their labour is often sorely needed. Most liberal inducements have frequently been offered them to emigrate to San Domingo, where labour is much wanted on the sugar estates, but I have never

heard of a single family taking advantage of the offers. The second alternative is one which no one could seriously contemplate, but I think that the third offers the readiest solution of the problem. In the cassava, or manioc plant, the people of the Caicos, could they but be persuaded to grow it and to take it into use, would find a product that would not only afford an unfailing supply of food even in the driest season, and be little liable to damage even in the severest hurricanes, but would be of great value as an export. The resident magistrate, Mr. Leslie, who has made great efforts to introduce this cultivation, writes in his annual report:—"I speak from my own experience when in the southern "provinces of Brazil, having lived upon it for one year, never "tasting flour in any form or shape, and never in my life felt in "better health. It is a most nutritious and healthy food, and "can be put up in barrels and kept for months much longer than "grits can be kept." I can add my own experience of four years in the West Africa Settlements, where it is the staple food of the country, and where even in Freetown, where food of every kind is abundant, the large majority of the people still prefer to live entirely on the cassava or "foo foo." Unfortunately the people here look upon cassava as unfit for food, and listen with polite incredulity to all assurances to the contrary, even when made from personal experience. As an export I think the sisal hemp could be grown at great profit, but it would not be possible to introduce the cultivation except side by side with some other, such as the cassava, which would support the labourer while his Agave plants were maturing. The agave, or sisal hemp, already grows freely in some parts of the Caicos, and I am anxiously watching the results of the impetus given to its cultivation in the neighbouring islands of the Bahamas.

9. *General Remarks.*

The year 1888 will long be remembered as one of continued suffering to the poorer classes. Up to the end of August less than four and a half inches of rain had fallen in Grand Turk, or about one fourth of the average fall, which is at best barely sufficient for the needs of the people. By the middle of the summer the public tanks and many of the private ones had given out, and there was no water to sell to the people, even could they have afforded to purchase it. The disturbed state of Hayti and San Domingo, and the blockade established at the northern ports of the former, effectually prevented recourse to them for assistance, and the only source of supply was from wells which were dug on the sea-beach on the east side of the island just above high-water mark, and which were found to yield small quantities of fairly wholesome, though brackish, water. These wells were at least two miles from the town, and thus a four-mile walk had to be taken to obtain the small quantity, which was all the people could get for drinking or cooking purposes. The hurricane in September was accompanied by a copious rainfall, but did little to improve matters, as

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

the sheets of spray which swept across the islands, and the coarse salt which was blown like sand from the heaps in which it had been stacked, mixing with the rainfall, made the water in many of the tanks actually more salt than the sea-water itself, so that they had to be cleaned out at once. It was not until the end of the year that sufficient water had been caught for ordinary needs, and even up to date the greatest economy has to be exercised in using it.

The long protracted drought had led many persons to predict that it would be followed by heavy atmospheric disturbance, and the predictions were verified by the severe hurricane which swept over these islands on Sunday, the 2nd September, the centre passing about seven miles south of Grand Turk, between this and Salt Cay. The hurricane was remarkable as not being preceded by any of the usual warnings, as, except for the drought, there was nothing like the ordinary "hurricane weather," with the heavy sky and uneasy sea, signs which the experienced observer cannot fail to read. Neither before nor after the hurricane was there anything like a heavy sea, though of course throughout its actual duration there was considerable disturbance. The barometer began to fall about daylight, and preparations were at once made on all sides to face the blow, which reached its full force at noon, when the barometer stood at 28·95. The direction of the wind was as usual from the N.E., and after reaching its height it shifted, in accordance with the law of cyclones, to the S.E., but the force had passed, and happily the wind soon dropped to an ordinary gale. It is the second part of the blow which is the most to be dreaded in a hurricane, as the first destroys the weak buildings, and so shakes and bends the stronger ones, that when the direction changes they fall before the fresh attack. In this particular the hurricane of 1888 differs from the great hurricane of 1866, which left hardly a building standing on these islands, and from the effect of which they have never recovered. The houses of the labouring class here are almost invariably their own property; they are built of wood with slight and insufficient framing, covered with thin boarding held on by as few nails as will serve, the roof being of refuse wooden shingles. No buildings could be devised more certain to be destroyed in a hurricane, but in islands devoid of wood, and where stone fit for building purposes is expensive and difficult to obtain, and where also the people are poor and thriftless, no other houses can well be erected. The result this year has been the destruction of 50 per cent. of the houses of the labouring class, hundreds of whom were rendered homeless, and lost all their clothes and other small possessions. The merchants lost heavily by the destruction of half a million bushels of salt, of the large wind machines which are used for turning the water into the pans, and of many salt lighters and other boats. In every direction walls and outbuildings were destroyed, and in the Government buildings the roofs were damaged and all gutters torn off. At the Commissioner's house the outbuildings were all destroyed, the stone ones being unroofed and the wooden ones shattered.

A large new American four-masted schooner, which was loading at Grand Turk, was blown on to the reefs and became a total wreck, all her crew being saved; but an American three-masted schooner, laden with lumber, was capsized in mid-channel, and all hands were lost except one man, who after drifting on some lumber for over a day, finding he was being carried out to sea, swam ashore a distance of about five miles. The American bark, "Silas Fish," which had loaded at Cockburn harbour and was crossing to Grand Turk, sank with all hands except the captain and one man, who, after being 48 hours in the water, drifted ashore, much bruised and exhausted, on one of the Caicos Islands. Many local craft were also lost. The loss of life was altogether 21, six of whom belonged to the Settlement, including one of the oldest salt merchants and his son, who were taking passage in the "Silas Fish," and two of the oldest pilots. There was no immediate loss of life on shore, though some deaths afterwards occurred from over exposure during and after the hurricane.

As the hurricane closed the salt season, and the merchants had lost too heavily to find employment for the numbers who were destitute, relief work on the roads was given by the Government to those who could not obtain any other work. A considerable quantity of provisions had also to be sent to the Caicos Islands, where the crops had before been almost entirely destroyed by the drought, and where the hurricane had left the people absolutely without means of subsistence. A central relief committee was formed at Grand Turk, with branches in the other islands, and circulars were sent abroad asking for help, an appeal which has so far resulted in contributions amounting to nearly 300*l*. A vote from Government funds of 500*l*., in addition to the sums spent on relief, has also been sanctioned, and efforts are being made to alleviate the distress. The means available are altogether too small to do very much, and at the time of writing this report many persons are still without any other shelter than that afforded by a portion of a broken roof propped up on a few boards, or resting against the nearest enclosure wall. All unused stores and spare buildings are crowded with shelterless poor, and even the Court House has still its nightly tenants. I trust that matters will gradually mend, as no effort is being spared to make our small means go as far as possible.

In September last the dependency was once more placed in direct communication with Jamaica, by the starting a line of steamers running at monthly intervals between Halifax and Kingston, calling at Bermuda and Turks Islands both in going and returning. It is of great advantage to be in touch with the head-quarters of the Government again, but these steamers are of little use as regards the carriage of English mails, and these islands are worse off in that way than they have been for long past. There were last year five steamers running at frequent intervals between Hayti and San Domingo and the United States, and calling here going and returning. One line of steamers has been withdrawn

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altogether, one has been temporarily stopped owing to the disturbances in Hayti, and the only remaining line, the Clyde, now that opposition has ceased, have raised their freights and run at long and irregular intervals. In the last three months we have had two intervals of five weeks each without any mails. I am, however, endeavouring to arrange for a more satisfactory service.

H. M. JACKSON,
Commissioner.

Grand Turk,
6th February 1889.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 63.

LABUAN.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 22.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.

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1889.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	1887–8
57	Malta	1888
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,

No. 63.

LABUAN.

Acting Governor HAMILTON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Labuan,
June 7, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward by this mail the Labuan Blue Book for the year 1888, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. S. HAMILTON,
Acting Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.
Colonial Office.

Revenue.

1. The revenue amounted to $18,393, being an increase on the estimated revenue of $691. This increase is accounted for chiefly under the following heads:—"Land Revenue," $303; "Postage," $209; "Transfer Duties," $66; and "Sale of Government property," $219; these amounts being received in excess of the sums estimated. The receipts under other heads of service, however, more than realised the amounts anticipated, with the exception of "special receipts," under which it was hoped that the sum of $400 would be available for transfer from the Coal Point account, but this money was subsequently expended, partly in paying arrears of wages due to servants of the late Oriental Coal Company and partly on the upkeep of the plant at the mines, and consequently the receipts under the above head were nil.

Expenditure.

2. The expenditure amounted to $18,829, being $8 less than the estimated expenditure. The sums spent under the various heads were, as a rule, strictly within the respective votes, the exception being in the expenditure under "Hospitals," which was considerably in excess owing to a larger amount of medicine being ordered than could be paid for with the sum set apart for that purpose.

Assets.

3. The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st December 1888 amounted to $7,700, of which sum $5,200 may be considered

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as immediately available, the remainder consisting of the loan to the Water Company ($1,500), and the estimated value of Government shares in the same company ($1,000).

Labuan has no public debt.

Public Works.

4. The repairs to Government House were almost completed at the end of the year, and it only remained to put the out offices in order.

A new flagstaff was also erected near this house.

By Ordinance No. 2 of 1882 the shopkeepers are compelled to store parafine and other inflammable oils and substances in a building set apart by the Government, and during the year a new storehouse was constructed for this purpose.

The Sarawak Government erected a wharf and two substantial coal stores on the frontage purchased by them in 1887.

The townspeople built a footbridge, at a cost of $200, over the creek at the back of the town. Three new iron beacon buoys were obtained for use in the harbour, the necessary roads and bridges were kept in repair, and some improvement was effected in the country by the construction of narrow footways over the swamps, the materials used being partly old iron rails and partly timber. These footways have proved of much convenience to the country people.

Civil Establishment.

5. Mr. Leys, the Acting Governor, left the Colony on leave on the 29th February, and at the end of the year was still absent.

No change took place in the pension list.

Shipping.

6. The following returns for the last five years show a marked increase of late in the number of vessels calling at the Colony. Men-of-war, yachts, and steam launches are not included in these statistics :—

Years.	Vessels entered.	Tonnage.
1884 - - - -	87	23,959
1885 - - - -	89	24,116
1886 - - - -	107	26,139
1887 - - - -	116	31,689
1888 - - -	129	37,435

Admiral Sir Nowell Salmon, Commander-in-Chief on the station, visited the Colony in March in his flag-ship "Audacious," accompanied by five of Her Majesty's ships. The Island was visited by 13 of Her Majesty's vessels during the year.

Trade.

7. Owing to the small number of the staff it was found impossible to take the import and export returns for the whole year; they were therefore taken up to the 30th June and the results doubled. In the following table the statistics for 1888 can only, therefore, be considered as approximately correct:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$
1886 - - - -	382,951	403,308
1887 - - - -	370,751	417,551
1888 - - - -	357,954	419,546

The amount of coal imported from Muara, and subsequently disposed of to passing vessels, was estimated at 8,000 tons, being a large increase on previous years, as may be seen by the following table:—

Year.	Tons exported.	Value.
		$
1885 - - - -	3,723	23,035
1886 - - - -	4,457	29,055
1887 - - - -	5,007	32,545
1888 - - - -	8,000	52,000

General.

8. The year 1888 was, comparatively speaking, a prosperous one for Labuan; there was undoubtedly more money in circulation and more employment generally for those who desired it. No difficulty was experienced in collecting rents and taxes, and the arrears of revenue carried forward to 1889 were quite insignificant. The large increase in the number of steamers calling at the Island makes it desirable that tonnage dues should be levied; for, so far as the Government are concerned, these vessels contribute at present nothing to the revenue. In return for these harbour dues the Government would probably be able, by-and-bye, to establish a small light on Pappan Island at the entrance of the harbour, which, with the beacons and buoys at present in position,

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would render it possible for vessels to enter and leave the harbour at night, instead of waiting, as they frequently do, for daylight.

The health of the inhabitants during the year was good, the daily average in hospital being 4·3. The Colony, however, narrowly escaped cholera, which spread up the Borneo coast from Sarawak; and although many persons died of this disease on the mainland within 40 miles of the Island not a single case occurred in Labuan itself.

The daily average number of prisoners in gaol amounted to 9, being the same as 1887. There was no serious crime committed, although some difficulty was caused by smuggling opium into the Colony from the Borneo coast, and out of 11 persons convicted in the Superior Court no less than nine were for offences against the revenue laws. This smuggling, however, it is hoped will not occur in future, arrangements having been made whereby the Labuan opium farmer leases the North Borneo opium farms in the vicinity of the Colony. Tenders for the excise farms for the years 1889 and 1890 were received in October, and as may be seen by the following list an increase was obtained:—

Year.	Revenue derived from Excise Farms.	
	$	
1884	12,928	
1885	14,940	
1886	12,300	
1887	11,400	
1888	11,400	
1889	12,720	Let for.
1890	12,720	

There was, I regret to say, no improvement visible in the school, which has for the last three years been nominally under the care of the Bishop of Singapore and Sarawak, and this establishment was closed on the 31st December. The Chinese, although alive to the value of education, will not send their children to school unless some reasonable prospect exists of what they learn there being of use to them afterwards; and they prefer giving them a Chinese education to the smattering of English which is all that those attending the school have ever succeeded in obtaining. The other natives take little or no interest in the matter at all; nor have they apparently any desire to know more about anything than their forefathers did. In justice to these latter it should be said, however, that they seem quite contented in their way, and, so far as the country people are concerned, cause the Government neither trouble nor expense.

The gaol was also abandoned on the 31st December, the few prisoners remaining being moved down to the police station, which has been fitted up as a temporary prison, there being ample accommodation elsewhere for the small number of police now on the establishment.

The rainfall for the year amounted to 91 inches, being 37 inches less than that of 1887.

(Signed) A. S. HAMILTON,
Acting Governor.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

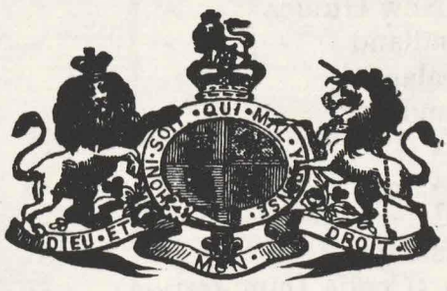
No. 68.

LAGOS.

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1889.

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No.	Colony.	Year.
18	St. Helena	1887
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	British New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turks Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,
63	Labuan	,,
64	Grenada	,,
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888

No. 68.

LAGOS.

Governor MOLONEY to LORD KNUTSFORD.

S.S. "Cameroon,"
March 25, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report as follows on the Blue Book for the Colony of Lagos for the year 1887 :—

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

There has been no alteration under the above heading; taxes, duties, and fees have continued during the year as they were in 1886.

The Customs tariff, which is most moderate, is regulated under the provisions of the Customs Tariff Ordinance, Lagos, 1877.

After the cession there was passed, on the 24th July 1862, an Ordinance to provide for the collection of import and export duties at the ports of Lagos, Badagry, Palma, Arthur, and Leckie.

It imposed on all goods imported into the above ports of entry two per cent. *ad valorem* with the addition of 18 per cent. to the invoice of the importer; also a duty of two per cent. on all produce exported from the above-mentioned ports.

For this tariff was substituted the following under Ordinance No. 5 of 26th February 1864 :—

Brandy, wine, cordials, per gallon	1*s.*
Rum and other spirits	4½*d.*
Beer and other malt liquors in bottle, per dozen	9*d.*
Beer and other malt liquors in cask, per gallon	4½*d.*
Tobacco per lb.	1*d.*
Cowries, per sack of 1 cwt.	1*s.*
Cigars, per 1,000	5*s.*
Gunpowder, per barrel of 100 lbs.	2*s.*
Guns, each	1*s.*
Pistols, each	6*d.*

Prior to 1877 the Customs tariff was embraced within the following Ordinances :—No. 5 of 26th February 1864, No. 8 of 16th April 1864, No. 4 of 7th April 1865, No. 8 of 1st August 1865, No. 1 of 3rd January 1867, No. 1 of 17th January 1868,

LAGOS.

No. 3 of 29th June 1872, No. 5 of 15th April 1873, No. 7 of 7th July 1873, and No. 2 of 6th January 1874.

These Ordinances in various particulars amended and modified each other. The effect of Ordinance No. 8 of 1877, the present Lagos Tariff Ordinance, was to collect and re-enact the outstanding result of the whole.

To admit of easy comparison of the duties imposed to the right and left of the Colony, I subjoin comparative statements embodying the tariffs (import and export) in force at the close of the year in the German and French Settlements, Liberia, West African English Colonies, and the Royal Niger terrritory, on the West Coast of Africa (exclusive of Senegambia).

Comparative Statement of Export Duty in German and French Settlements, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, and Niger Territories.

Articles.	German and French Settlements between Gold Coast and Lagos.	Gambia.	Sierra Leone.	Liberia.	Gold Coast.		Lagos.	Niger Territories.
					Axim to Addah.	Quittah District.		
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Palm oil, per gallon - - -	Nil	Nil	0 0 1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0 0 1
Palm kernels, per cwt. - - -	„	„	0 0 2	„	„	„	„	0 0 2
Ground nuts, shelled, per cwt. -	„	0 0 4	0 0 3	„	„	„	„	Nil
Do., unshelled, per cwt. -	„	Nil	0 0 2	„	„	„	„	„
Beniseed, per cwt. - - -	„	„	0 0 2	„	„	„	„	„
Kolah nuts, per cwt. - - -	„	„	0 5 0	„	„	„	„	„
Gum, per cwt. - - - -	„	„	0 2 0	„	„	„	„	„
Hides, each - - - -	„	„	0 0 2	„	„	„	„	„
Shea butter, per gallon - -	„	„	Nil	„	„	„	„	0 0 1
Ivory, per lb. - - - -	„	„	„	„	„	„	„	0 1 0

N.B.—Sierra Leone:—Imperial gallon.
Gold Coast:—Old wine „
Lagos and Niger:—Imperial gallon. } Apply throughout.
B.L.—Below Lokoja.
O.L.—Above „

Comparative Statement of Duty in German and French Settlements, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gold Coast, Lagos, and Niger Territories.

Articles.		German and French Settlements between Gold Coast and Lagos.			Gambia.			Sierra Leone.		
		English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
		£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.
Gin, per case, 8 litres, or 1 gallon, 3·043 quarts, imperial measure; 2·4 gallons, old wine measure	40 per cent.	0 0 3·84	0 32	0 40	0 1 10·25	1 85	2 22·5	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
	60 per cent.	0 0 5·76	0 48	0 60	0 2 9·75	2 81	3 37·5	0 3 9	3 75	4 50
	65 per cent.	0 0 9·60	0 80	1 0	0 3 0·25	3 2	3 62·5	0 4 0	4 0	4 80
Rum, per litre, or 0·880 quarts, imperial measure; 1·056 quarts, old wine measure	40 per cent.	0 0 0·19	0 1·8	0 2	0 0 2·85	0 23	0 27·5	0 0 3·75	0 31	0 37·5
	60 per cent.	0 0 0·28	0 2·4	0 3	0 0 4·27	0 35	0 45	0 0 5·5	0 45	0 55
	65 per cent.	0 0 0·48	0 4	0 5	0 0 4·5	0 37	0 45	0 0 6·1	0 50	0 60
Gunpowder, 100 lbs.		0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 8 4	8 33	10 0	0 6 0	6 0	7 20
Tobacco, per kilo., or 2 lbs. 3·25 ozs.		0 0 1·20	0 10	0 12·5	0 0 6·6	0 50·6	0 60·6	0 1 1·2	1 9	1 30
Rifles, each		0 0 6	0 50	0 60·1	0 4 0	4 0	4 80	0 5 0	5 0	6 0
War materials. Rifles, muzzle-loading		Nil	Nil	Nil	0 4 0	4 0	4 80	0 5 0	5 0	6 0
War materials. Do. breech-loading		„	„	„	1 0 0	20 0	25 0	1 0 0	20 0	25 0
War materials. Breech-loading guns		„	„	„	1 0 0	20 0	25 0	0 10 0	10 0	12 50
War materials. Percussion guns		„	„	„	0 4 0	4 0	4 80	0 4 0	4 0	4 80
War materials. Trade flint-locks, each		„	„	„	0 4 0	4 0	4 80	0 2 6	2 50	3 0

Comparative Statement of Duty in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	German and French Settlements between Gold Coast and Lagos.			Gambia.			Sierra Leone.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.
Brandy, per gallon	Nil	Nil	Nil	0 3 0	3 0	3 60	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Whiskey	„	„	„	0 1 6	1 50	1 80	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Absinthe, per gallon	„	„	„	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 1 6	1 50	1 80
Wines, except claret, per gallon	„	„	„	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	0 1 6	1 50	1 80
Cordials, per gallon	„	„	„	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 1 6	1 50	1 80
Claret, per gallon	„	„	„	0 0 9	0 75	0 90	0 0 6	0 50	0 60
Ale, porter, and malt liquors, per gallon	„	„	„	0 0 9	0 75	0 90	0 0 4	0 33	0 40
Cider, per gallon	„	„	„	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Kerosine oil, per gallon	„	„	„	0 0 3	0 25	0 30	0 6	0 50	0 60
Cigars, per lb., 100, and tobacco manufactured, per lb.	„	„	„	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of DUTY in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	German and French Settlements between Gold Coast and Lagos.			Gambia.			Sierra Leone.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
Cowries, per cwt.	£ s. d. Nil	M. Pf. Nil	F. C. Nil	£ s. d. Nil	M. Pf. Nil	F. C. Nil	£ s. d. Nil	M. Pf. Nil	F. C. Nil
Pistols and revolvers, each	„	„	„	0 4 0	4 0	4 80	Free	—	—
Cartridges, ball, per 100	„	„	„	Free	—	—	0 5 0	5 0	6 0
Sugar, per lb.	„	„	„	0 0 1	0 83	0 10	Free	—	—
Salt, per ton	„	„	„	0 5 0	5 0	6 0	—	—	—
Building materials	„	„	„	Free	—	—	—	—	—
Shooks	„	„	„	„	—	—	—	—	—
Specie, gold, silver (British)	„	„	„	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kolah nuts, per lb., potash, and all other goods, products of Africa	„	„	„	0 0 1	0 8·3	0 10	—	—	—
All other goods not enumerated herein	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Comparative Statement of Duty in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.		Liberia.			Gold Coast.					
					Axim to Addah.			Quittah District.		
		English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
		£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.
Gin, per case, 8 litres, or 1 gallon, 3·043 quarts, imperial measure; 2·4 gallons old wine measure	40 per cent.	0 3 8	3 16	4 40	0 5 0	5 0	6 0	0 2 5	2 41	2 90
	60 per cent.	0 3 8	3 16	4 40	0 7 6	7 50	9 0	0 3 2	3 16	3 80
	65 per cent.	0 3 8	3 16	4 40	0 7 6	7 50	9 0	0 4 3	4 25	5 10
Rum, per litre, or 0·880 quarts, imperial measure; 1·056 quarts, old wine measure	40 per cent.	0 0 7·1	0 58·9	0 70·1	0 0 6	0 50	0 60	0 0 3·42	0 28	0 35
	60 per cent.	0 0 7·1	0 58·9	0 70·1	0 0 9	0 75	0 90	0 0 4·620	0 36·5	0 45
	65 per cent.	0 0 7·1	0 58·9	0 70·1	0 0 10	0 84	1 0	0 0 6·170	0 50	0 60
Gunpowder, 100 lbs.		0 12 6% ad. val.	12 50%	15 0%	2 10 0	50 0	62 50	2 10 0	50 0	62 50
Tobacco, per kilo., or 2 lbs. 3·25 ozs.		—	—	—	0 1 1	1 8	1 30	0 1 1	1 8	1 30
Rifles, each		—	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Rifles, muzzle-loading (War materials.)		—	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Do., breech-loading (War materials.)		—	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Breech-loading guns (War materials.)		—	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Percussion guns (War materials.)		—	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Trade flint locks, each (War materials.)		—	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	0 2 0	2 0	2 40

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of DUTY in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Liberia.			Gold Coast.					
				Axim to Addah.			Quittah District.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
Brandy, per gallon	£ s. d. 0 2 1	M. Pf. 2 83	F. C. 2 50	£ s. d. 0 2 6	M. Pf. 2 50	F. C. 3 0	£ s. d. 0 2 6	M. Pf. 2 50	F. C. 3 0
Whiskey	0 2 1	2 83	2 50	0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
Absinthe, per gallon	0 2 1	2 83	2 50	0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
Wines, except claret, per gallon	Nil	Nil	Nil	0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
Cordials, per gallon	„	„	„	0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
Claret, per gallon	„	„	„	0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
Ale, porter, and malt liquors, per gallon	„	„	„	0 0 6	0 50	0 60	0 0 6	0 50	0 60
Cider, per gallon	„	„	„	0 2 6	2 50	3 0	0 2 6	2 50	3 0
Kerosine oil, per gallon	„	„	„	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%
Cigars, per lb., 100, and tobacco manufactured, per lb.	„	„	„	0 0 6	0 50	0 60	0 0 6	0 50	0 60

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of DUTY in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Liberia.			Gold Coast.					
				Axim to Addah.			Quittah District.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
Cowries, per cwt.	£ s. d. Nil	M. Pf. Nil	F. C. Nil	£ s. d. 4% ad. val.	M. Pf. 80 0%	F. C. 100 0%	£ s. d. 4% ad. val.	M. Pf. 80 0%	F. C. 100 0%
Pistols and revolvers, each	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cartridges, ball, per 100	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sugar, per lb.	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salt, per ton	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building materials	,,	,,	,,	Free	—	—	Free	—	—
Shooks	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specie, gold, silver (British)	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kolah nuts, per lb., potash and all other goods, products of Africa.	,,	,,	,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other goods not enumerated herein	,,	,,	,,	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of DUTY in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Lagos.							Niger Territories.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	Transit Duties on Goods exported to Porto Novo.	Transit Duties on Goods exported to Parts beyond the Sea.	Drawback on duty-paid Goods exported to Porto Novo.	Drawback on duty-paid Goods exported to Parts beyond the Sea.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
	£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.					£ s. d.	M. Pf.	F. C.
Gin, per case, 8 litres, or 1 gallon, 3·043 quarts, imperial measure; 2·4 gallons, old wine measure — 40 per cent.	0 0 10½	0 85	1 5	1¼*d.* per gallon.	1¼*d.* per gallon.	4¾*d.* per gallon.	4¾*d.* per gallon.	0 3 6	3 50	4 20
60 per cent.	0 1 0	1 0	1 20					0 3 6	3 50	4 20
65 per cent.	0 1 0	1 0	1 20					0 3 6	3 50	4 20
Rum, per litre, or 0·880 quarts, imperial measure; 1·056 quarts old wine measure — 40 per cent.	0 0 1·5	0 12·5	0 15	,,	,,	,,	,,	0 0 5·2	0 43·3	0 5·2
60 per cent.	0 0 1·625	0 12·6	0 16·5					0 0 5·2	0 43·3	0 5·2
65 per cent.	0 0 1·75	0 14·5	0 17·5					0 0 5·2	0 43·3	0 5·2
Gunpowder, 100 lbs.	0 2 0	2 0	2 40	1*s.* per barrel	8*d.* per barrel	1*s.* per barrel.	1*s.* 4*d.* per brl.	100% ad. val.	2,000 0%	2,500 0%
Tobacco, per kilo., or 2 lbs. 3·25 ozs.	0 0 4·25	0 35	0 42·5	¼*d.* per lb.	¼*d.* per lb.	1¾*d.* per lb.	1¾*d.* per lb.	0 1 1	1 8	1 30
Rifles, each	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	6*d.* each	4*d.* each	6*d.* each	6*d.* each	100% ad. val.	2,000 0%	2,500 0%
War materials. Rifles, muzzle-loading	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
Do., breech-loading	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
Breech-loading guns	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
Percussion guns	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
Trade flint locks, each	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of DUTY in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Lagos.							Niger Territories.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	Transit Duties on Goods exported to Porto Novo.	Transit Duties on Goods exported to Parts beyond the Sea.	Drawback on duty-paid Goods exported to Porto Novo.	Drawback on duty-paid Goods exported to Parts beyond the Sea.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
Brandy, per gallon - -	£ s. d. 0 1 0	M. Pf. 1 0	F. C. 1 20	6*d.* per gallon	4*d.* per gallon	6*d.* per gallon	8*d.* per gallon	£ s. d. 0 2 0	M. Pf. 2 0	F. C. 2 40
Whiskey - - -	0 0 6	0 50	0 60	3*d.* „	2*d.* „	3*d.* „	4*d.* „	0 2 0	2 0	2 40
Absinthe, per gallon - -	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	6*d.* „	4*d.* „	6*d.* „	8*d.* „	2% } ad.val.BL 10% } „ OL	40 0% 200 0%	50 0% 250 0%
Wines except claret, per gallon.	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	6*d.* „	4*d.* „	6*d.* „	8*d.* „	„	„	„
Cordials, per gallon - -	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	6*d.* „	4*d.* „	6*d.* „	8*d.* „	„	„	„
Claret, per gallon - -	0 1 0	1 0	1 20	6*d.* „	4*d.* „	6*d.* „	8*d.* „	„	„	„
Ale, porter, and malt liquors, per gallon.	0 0 4½	0 37·5	0 45	2¼*d.* „	1½*d.* „	2¼*d.* „	3*d.* „	„	„	„
Cider, per gallon - -	0 0 4½	0 37·5	0 45	2¼*d.* „	1½*d.* „	2¼*d.* „	3*d.* „	„	„	„
Kerosine oil, per gallon -	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%	½ of full duty	⅓ of full duty	½ of full duty	⅔ of full duty		„	„
Cigars, per lb., 100, and tobacco manufactured per lb.	0 0 6	0 50	0 60	3*d.* per lb.	2*d.* per lb.	3*d.* per lb.	4*d.* per lb.	0 0 6	0 50	0 60

Comparative Statement of Duty in German and French Settlements, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Lagos.							Niger Territories.		
	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.	Transit duties on Goods exported to Porto Novo.	Transit duties on Goods exported to parts beyond the Sea.	Drawback on duty paid Goods exported to Porto Novo.	Drawback on duty paid Goods exported to parts beyond the Sea.	English Currency.	German Currency.	French Currency.
Cowries, per cwt.	£ s. d. 0 1 0	M. Pf. 1 0	F. C. 1 20	6*d.* per cwt.	4*d.* per cwt.	6*d.* per cwt.	8*d.* per cwt.	£ s. d. 2% } ad.val.BL 10% } „ OL	M. Pf. 40 0% 200 0%	F. C. 50 0% 250 0%
Pistols and revolvers, each	0 0 6	0 50	0 60	3*d.* each	2*d.* each	3*d.* each	4*d.* each	100 0% ad. val.	2,000 0%	2,500 0%
Cartridges, ball, per 100	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%	½ of full duty	⅓ of full duty	½ of full duty	⅔ of full duty	2% } ad.val.BL 10% } „ OL	40 0% 200 0%	50 0% 250 0%
Sugar, per lb.	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%	„	⅓ of full duty	½ of full duty	⅔ of full duty	2% } ad.val.BL 10% } „ OL	40 0% 200 0%	50 0% 250 0%
Salt, per ton	0 5 0	5 0	6 0	2*s.* 6*d.* per ton	1*s.* 8*d.* per ton	2*s.* 6*d.* per ton	3*s.* 4*d.* per ton	1 0 0	20 0%	25 0
Building materials	Free	—	—	—	—	—	—	2% } ad.val.BL 10% } „ OL	40 0% 200 0%	50 0% 250 0%
Shooks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	„	„	„
Specie, gold, silver (British)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	„	„	„
Kolah nuts, per lb., potash and all other goods products of Africa.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other goods not enumerated herein.	4% ad. val.	80 0%	100 0%	½ of the full duty thereon.	⅓ of the full duty thereon.	½ full duty.	⅔ of full duty.	2% } ad.val.BL 10% } „ OL	40 0% 200 0%	50 0% 250 0%

Since I began this report I have learnt that from the 1st January 1888 the following represented the tariff in the German possession Cameroon:—

	Mks.	Fen.	
Spirits (including gin, &c.), 15 per cent. and under -	0	10	per litre.
Spirits (including gin, &c.), 15 per cent. over - -	0	20	„
Tobacco, cigars, &c. - -	0	20	per kilog.
Gunpowder - - -	0	10	„
Guns, pistols, firearms of any description - - -	1	0	each.
Salt - - - -	4	0	per ton.
Rice - - - -	0	·02	per kilog.

All other goods free.

$\frac{453}{1000}$ gallon = 1 litre.

Post Office.

Money Order System exists between Lagos and the United Kingdom, Sierra Leone, and Gold Coast Colonies. The extent of its operation can be gauged from the following Statistics of its transactions for the past ten Years. It has not yet been applied to Gambia, as the intercommunication has not required it.

Total of Orders issued annually at Lagos on						Total of Orders paid annually at Lagos from					
—	United Kingdom.		Sierra Leone.		Remarks.	—	United Kingdom.		Sierra Leone.		Remarks.
	Amount.	Commission.	Amount.	Commission.			Amount.	Due to Lagos Share of Commission.	Amount.	Due to Lagos Share of Commission.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1878 -	3,556 11 3	80 3 0	2,109 12 4	47 18 0		1878 -	13 12 9	0 2 8	309 7 3	4 0 0	
1879 -	6,196 3 11	131 16 0	1,417 17 4	33 6 0		1879 -	21 11 9	0 4 2½	293 8 3	3 8 6	
1880 -	3,158 17 3	68 18 0	697 4 10	17 2 0		1880 -	14 14 5	0 2 10½	343 19 8	3 7 3½	
1881 -	2,814 5 4	63 7 0	938 13 7	23 1 0		1881 -	31 4 1	0 6 3	718 9 2	5 15 6	
1882 -	3,084 6 0	69 4 0	804 15 10	20 3 0		1882 -	145 7 0	1 8 11	430 9 6	3 14 3	
1883* -	3,201 12 10	71 17 0	646 5 4	16 6 0		1883 -	34 10 11	0 6 10½	393 0 8	2 3 6	
1884 -	630 0 0	57 17 0	567 18 5	14 8 0		1884 -	85 10 9	0 17 0	431 13 8	2 2 10	
1885† -	3,670 9 8	65 19 2	841 6 9	15 1 0		1885 -	53 13 3	0 7 9	763 8 9	3 16 2	
1886 -	13,546 15 5	226 16 2	583 1 6	13 7 0		1886 -	57 1 11	0 5 11	486 3 7	2 8 0	
1887 -	6,349 8 3	110 19 6	843 7 8	14 6 0		1887 -	81 1 1	0 8 2	424 9 5	2 2 2	

Commission at one per cent. on total amount of orders issued allowed to United Kingdom.
Half of total commission charged on orders allowed to Sierra Leone.
* Commission at half per cent. on total amount of orders drawn allowed from August 1883 to Sierra Leone.
† Commission at half per cent. on total amount of orders drawn allowed from April 1885 to United Kingdom.

Post Office—*continued.*

—	Total of Orders issued annually at Lagos on					Total of Orders paid annually at Lagos from					
	Cape Coast.		Accra.		Remarks.	—	Cape Coast.		Accra.		Remarks.
	Amount.	Commission.	Amount.	Commission.			Amount.	Commission.	Amount.	Commission.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1883* -	18 10 0	0 10 0	61 12 0	1 17 0		1883 -	100 3 6	1 3 0	58 16 6	0 19 0	
1884 -	35 14 10	1 1 0	59 15 9	1 19 0		1884 -	141 11 9	1 11 6	30 16 2	0 10 6	
1885† -	67 3 5	1 7 4	260 4 10	4 12 0		1885 -	41 13 10	0 2 8	47 11 8	0 8 9	
1886 -	286 7 0	5 13 4	131 16 10	2 5 0		1886 -	269 15 0	—	89 6 10	—	
1887 -	265 9 6	4 18 8	266 10 4	4 10 4		1887 -	135 19 6	—	128 4 0	—	

* System was only extended in 1883.
† By intercolonial arrangement from September 1885 issuing office appropriates whole commission.

LAGOS.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Lagos was erected into a separate Colony on the 1st January 1886.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue for the years 1886 and 1887 :—

Heads of Revenue.	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	44,427 8 0	41,537 3 6	—	2,890 4 6
Sale of Government property	192 17 6	213 8 1	20 10 7	—
Land sales	—	597 8 0	597 8 0	—
Land revenue	—	1 10 0	1 10 0	—
Postal revenue	1,070 15 10	1,056 7 10	—	14 8 0
Stamp duties	—	—	—	—
Rent (exclusive of lands)	223 10 3	224 0 6	0 10 3	—
Licenses	1,520 16 6	1,505 11 0	—	15 5 6
Fees of office	162 3 0	149 16 3	—	12 6 9
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	821 16 2	1,056 0 1	234 3 11	—
Miscellaneous	3,085 6 0	2,706 9 7	—	378 16 5
Reimbursements in aid of expenses incurred	380 10 9	252 14 9	—	127 16 0
Interest on investments	1,426 19 10	1,870 15 8	443 15 11	—
Overpayments refunded	194 19 1	175 9 3	—	19 9 10
	53,507 2 11	51,346 14 6	1,297 18 7	3,458 7 0

The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for the years 1886 and 1887 :—

Establishments and Services.	Expenditure.			
	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
Establishment.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries, fixed	24,402 3 11	27,901 2 1	3,498 18 2	—
Do., provisional and temporary	1,244 13 6	2,015 10 8	770 17 2	—
Contingencies	1,023 5 2	1,036 10 1	13 4 11	—
Allowances	1,337 5 8	1,406 6 7	69 0 11	—
Total establishments	28,007 8 3	32,359 9 5	—	—
Service (exclusive of establishments) :—				
Civil :—				
Governor	155 3 2	98 10 6	—	56 12 8
Treasury, Customs	3,105 9 3	2,553 14 7	—	551 14 8
Post Office	559 1 10	636 18 8	77 16 10	—
Public Works and Survey	8,937 5 7	22,564 9 2	13,627 3 7	—

Establishments and Services.	Expenditure.			
	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
Marine :—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Harbour master - - -	256 10 3	261 16 3	5 6 0	—
Government vessels - -	718 5 11	6,361 6 11	5,643 1 0	—
Judicial - - - - -	56 13 7	103 4 4	46 10 9	—
Charitable - - - -	38 7 2	58 17 6	20 10 4	—
Educational - - - -	624 0 0	624 0 0	—	—
Constabulary - - - -	861 18 0	1,106 14 4	244 16 4	—
Prisons - - - - -	1,097 3 11	1,221 4 8	124 0 9	—
Medical - - - - -	1,080 15 3	941 16 0	—	138 19 3
Sanitary - - - - -	204 3 0	200 14 6	—	3 8 6
Rent - - - - -	289 3 0	319 16 3	30 13 3	—
Transport - - - -	2,047 16 11	3,407 7 11	1,359 11 0	—
Aborigenes - - - -	2,963 10 1	1,650 7 11	—	1,313 2 2
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,897 13 4	3,036 1 11	1,138 8 7	—
Pensions - - - -	2,482 13 6	1,103 19 1	—	1,378 14 5
	55,383 2 0	78,610 9 11	26,669 19 7	3,442 11 8

	£	s.	d.
The estimated revenue for the year was - - - - -	63,080	0	0
The actual revenue only reached -	51,346	14	6
Difference - -	11,733	5	6

While the estimates under certain heads of service were exceeded to the extent of 1,509*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, revenual expectations under others fell short by 13,467*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

Again, there were received sums which have been considered as unestimated to the extent of 224*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

The difference between amounts not realised and total of excesses equal difference between estimated and actual revenue, viz., 11,733*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*

This difference is accounted for under Customs receipts, which fell short from what had been hoped for by 11,862*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, made up of 10,895*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.* under specific and 967*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* under ad valorem.

The reason advanced for such a difference by the Collector of Customs is that there were less importations under both heads, due to stock on hand from the previous year.

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	£	s.	d.
The expenditure of the year 1887 has been - - -	78,610	9	11
Whereas the expenditure authorised under the Supply Ordinance No. 7 of 1886 totalled - -	64,377	12	11
Difference in excess -	14,232	17	0
While the outlay under certain heads of service was, according to the auditor, in excess of the votes applicable to those heads to the extent of - - -	24,375	12	6
There remained unexpended balances represented by savings of provisions under other heads of service that totalled - -	10,142	15	6
Difference corresponding with above excess - -	14,232	17	6

According to the Auditor the expenditure over the provisions of the estimates is made up of 17,954*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, above estimates under certain heads of service and 6,421*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* unestimated for.

This classification has had, doubtless, for its object the avoidance of additional heads of service, but it is misleading; for instances, in the former total are included the sums of 8,095*l.* paid for the property of Messrs. Banner, "the new Customs and Treasury," and of 850*l.* for the Queen's Advocate's quarters and offices, outlays in no way considered when the estimates for the year were framed.

The growing importance of Lagos and the increased establishments consequent on its erection into a separate Colony necessitated certain expenditure which must be in part deemed exceptional and extraordinary.

I detail hereunder such and other expenditure for which no provision appeared in the estimates for the year.

The office of Queen's Advocate was a new creation, and his quarters and offices had to be provided; this was done by the purchase, at a cost of 850*l.*, of the property of Mr. Colonna de Lecca at the corner of Hamburg and Broad Street.

For years a new Customs pier and extended accommodation as regards the Treasury, Customs, and Post Office were contemplated; besides additional quarters for the treasurer, collector, and chief clerk and warehouse-keeper had to be provided. Such ends were secured by the purchase of the property of Messrs. Banner at a cost of 8,095*l.*

Then, for the more efficient police of the waterways on which the trade of this Colony so much depends, this Government was allowed to take over two Gold Coast steam launches, the "Con-

stance" and "Gladys," at a cost of 1,200*l.*; a new launch, the "Kathleen," was also supplied at a cost of 968*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*

Again, in view of the condemnation of the "Gertrude" in 1886, and of the continuance of the same reasons that seemed sufficient in 1878 to justify her supply to the Colony, a contract for a new yacht (stern-wheeler) in her place was approved. The tender at 5,785*l.* of Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead, Liverpool, was accepted, and, under the conditions of the agreement of 6th September 1887 entered into with that firm, the sum of 3,008*l.* 4*s.* was paid to them in 1887 for which there was no provision in the estimates.

Next there were two exceptional payments, viz.: (1). 158*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* for the lithography and supply of new maps of the Colony; and (2.) 119*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* for the supply of 200 copies of the bound volume of Ordinances of the Gold Coast Colony to 7th April 1887. The outlay in each case has been considerably met since by the sale of spare copies.

Certain exceptional initial expenditure had to be incurred in connexion with the establishment of a botanic station, represented here by the sum of 239*l.* on account of cost of passages from the West Indies to the Colony of the superintendent and his family.

The arrears of 1886 paid in 1887 amount to 2,246*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*

Again, the sum of 329*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, which in September 1871 had been absorbed into the general revenue, had to be transferred to a heading of deposit to the credit of the estate of one Ayebomi, who was murdered in Lagos in 1871. The same is here to be said of the sum of 192*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* subscribed in 1872 for a public library; it has been paid over to the committee of the Glover Memorial for the purpose originally intended.

The excesses over votes for other services under Public Works amounted to 5,127*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, of which, however, the sum of 394*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* represented value of material in store on the close of the year.

The following figures exhibit the revenue and expenditure of Lagos for the last ten years:—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1878 - - - - -	50,889	49,736
1879 - - - - -	54,940	45,935
1880 - - - - -	47,987	37,923
1881 - - - - -	42,422	45,462
1882 - - - - -	44,636	44,039
1883 - - - - -	50,559	37,879
1884 - - - - -	57,932	44,683*
1885 - - - - -	63,505	40,314
1886 - - - - -	53,507	55,383
1887 - - - - -	51,347	78,610

* Exclusive of payments by Crown Agents and at the Gold Coast.

LAGOS.

Municipal Government.

No municipal government exists.

A Bill has been under the consideration of the Government entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Law for promoting the public health."

To effect the better sanitary condition of the Colony was its primary object. The creation of nominated boards of health, as contemplated thereunder, would tend to widen the basis of government, would encourage self-dependence amongst the community, and would develope a taste for municipal government.

It also aimed at educating the local mind up to the importance and necessity of self-taxation by the acceptance, later, of municipal powers.

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt. On the contrary it has a credit balance of 38,059*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, as will be observed in the following statement of its assets and liabilities on the close of the year:—

Assets.	Amount.			Liabilities.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash in Treasury 31st December 1887 -	3,961	14	2	Deposits for which the Colony is liable -	4,306	0	10
Cash with Crown Agents 31st December 1887 -	2,563	4	10	Excess of assets -	38,059	9	1
Remittance in transit to Crown Agents -	500	0	0				
Advances due to Colony	836	12	2				
Investments - -	34,503	18	9				
£	42,365	9	11		42,365	9	11

The investments of the Colony are detailed hereunder:—

Return of Investments, Lagos Colony, 31st March 1888.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Canada debentures - - -	10,800	0	0
Ceylon debentures - - -	6,000	0	0
New South Wales 3½ per Cent. Inscribed Stock - - - -	11,610	7	11
Victoria 4 per Cent. Inscribed Stock -	1,475	10	11
Do. do. -	5,687	4	1
	35,573	2	11

Military Expenditure.

There has been no expenditure under this head.

Since 1870 Lagos has ceased to be a military station. The Ashantee invasion of the Gold Coast Colony in 1873 necessitated the withdrawal then of a considerable portion of the local Houssa constabulary, which resulted in the temporary detachment to Lagos of a small force of the 2nd West India Regiment.

The local defensive force is represented by the constabulary, made up of:—

An inspector-general - -	European officers.
An inspector - - -	
Two assistant inspectors - -	
One superintendent and paymaster -	Native officers.
One sub-intendant - - -	
One native officer - - -	

400 non-commissioned officers and men, composed of 250 Houssas and 150 Yorubas; to the latter are entrusted the local ordinary police duties.

The expense on account of this force for the year has been 11,758*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

The establishment, within the jurisdiction, of villages for civilian Houssas receives all encouragement.

The enrolment of a volunteer force is provided for under Ordinance No. 2 of 1884.

An important move in the direction of such an establishment has been made to the extent of enrolling some 400 Houssas.

The question of the annual calling out of such a body is under the consideration of the Government.

Public Works.

Considerable progress under Public Works was made during the year, for the "services" of which the sum of 22,264*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* was spent, partly from current revenue, partly from the credit balance of the Colony.

Besides the ordinary current work for the keep and repair of the public property, the chief services may be enumerated briefly as follows:—

1. The purchase of the property of Messrs. Banner, situate in the business part of the town, and its conversion into a new Treasury, Customs with warehouses, and screw pile pier for lading and discharging of vessels, Savings Bank and Post Office.

2. The completion of the surrounding wall to gaol, a work very necessary; and the supply of gaolers' quarters and offices.

3. The continuation of the embankment of the marina, a highly important service in a sanitary sense, as also one by which a considerable and valuable reclamation takes place, trebling the width of the ordinary marina.

LAGOS.

4. The construction of a new road to the sea-shore *viâ* the Five Cowries Creek Bridge.

5. The erection of the Tappa and Ebute-Ero police stations.

6. A new fish market, off the marina, on screw piles, a much-wanted and long-needed building.

7. The new sanitorium for officers on the sea-beach, a most essential and wise provision.

8. The erection of an experimental public latrine on screw piles. This is intended as a model for the general supply of such buildings.

9. The surrounding wall to the public powder magazine, to ensure public safety and to be capable of being utilised as a point of defence.

10. The establishment of a botanical station as a distributing centre for economic plants of commercial value.

Legislation.

The following Ordinances have been passed during the year by the local Legislature, and have had extended to them the Royal Assent :—

No. 1, of 20th May 1887, "The Supplementary Supply Ordinance, 1887."

No. 2, of 20th May 1887, "An Ordinance to promote the "maintenance of discipline on board Her Majesty's ships."

This Ordinance is based on the Imperial Act 16 & 17 Vict. cap. 69, and was passed by the local Legislature on the representation of the Admiralty of its expediency generally for the purpose of maintaining discipline on Her Majesty's ships in Colonial waters.

No. 3, of 30th May 1887, "An Ordinance to consolidate and "amend the Laws relating to the promotion of Education."

This Ordinance came into operation with the beginning of 1888. Its principal object was to do away with the system of annual lump grants to the educational bodies represented by the Anglican, Wesleyan, and Roman Catholic Missionary Societies, and to substitute grants in aid to schools and to make such strictly dependent upon merit.

Under the Ordinance rules were framed according to which schools would be entitled, as of right, to grants for passes in primary subjects, for organisation and discipline, and for a higher standard of general excellence. Grants may also be made thereunder for passes in secondary subjects.

No. 4, of 2nd August 1887, "The detention of Enemil Quow Ordinance, 1887."

No. 5, of 2nd August 1887, "The Doombuyah and Beah Jack detention Ordinance, 1887."

To clothe with legality the continued detention, since the separation of Lagos from the Gold Coast Colony, of these political prisoners, Ordinances Nos. 4 and 5 were considered necessary.

No. 6, of 2nd August 1888, "The Supply Ordinance, Colony of Lagos, 1888."

No. 7, of 31st December, "Gold Coast Constabulary Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1887."

This Ordinance was passed to extend generally the first term of enlistment in the force from three to six years, and to clothe with law such enlistments for the latter period to date as have taken place since the erection of Lagos into a separate Colony.

Civil Establishment.

The changes during the year were not many.

From the 1st January to 30th May Mr. F. Evans, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, was entrusted with the reins of Government during the absence on leave of the Governor, who returned to the Colony on the 31st May and resumed the general administration.

The Right Reverend the Bishop of Sierra Leone visited Lagos, his stay extending from the 26th March to the 2nd May, when he embarked for Sierra Leone.

The Hon. C. J. George, unofficial and native member of the Legislative Council, proceeded to England in May on six months' leave of absence.

The Inspector of Schools, the Reverend Metcalfe Sunter, accompanied by the Sub-Inspector, Mr. M. J. Marke, paid an official visit to the Colony, and stayed respectively from 21st February to 8th May and 18th January to 31st March.

The death, on the 19th July, of Dr. C. S. Grant, Colonial Surgeon, was a severe blow to the Colony; the value of and confidence in his professional services were well known.

In consequence, Dr. J. W. Rowland, who had been appointed on the 21st May a District Commissioner of the Colony, was restored to the medical department and appointed on the 24th September Colonial Surgeon in the room of Dr. Grant.

The following further new appointments were made:—

Mr. Alvan Millson, Magistrate of the Western District of British Honduras, to be a District Commissioner of Lagos vice Dr. Rowland.

Captain A. F. Tarbet and Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith to be assistant inspectors of constabulary.

Mr. F. Anderson to be assistant surveyor in the Public Works Department.

Mr. J. McNair, from the Hope Nurseries at Jamaica, to be superintendent of the botanical station.

Speaking generally, the European and Native officers are a credit to the Colony.

Pensions and Gratuities.

The special conditions regulating grants of pensions on the West Coast of Africa are to be found in the Rules and Regulations of the Colonial Service, printed in the Colonial Office List which is annually published.

LAGOS.

The expenditure under the above heading that had to be met during the year totalled 1,103*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*

During 1887 the additions to the pensioners of the Government were Captain H. F. Richmond and Robert Palmer.

The former, at the time an Assistant Colonial Secretary of Sierra Leone, retired on pension, towards which Lagos had to contribute in proportion to the period of his service spent in the Colony as an assistant inspector of constabulary; the latter was the keeper of the Lagos Cemetery and was placed on pension on account of his service and age.

Population, Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

According to the census taken in 1871 the population of the Colony represented then a total of 60,221, made up as hereunder given :—

Districts.	Males.	Females.
Lagos - - - - -	13,520	14,998
Vicinity of Lagos - - - -	3,450	4,037
Northern district - - - -	5,313	7,088
Western district - - - -	3,728	4,073
Eastern district - - - -	1,852	2,163
Totals - -	27,863	32,358

The census of 1881 puts the population of the Colony at 75,270, as follows :—

Districts.	Males.	Females.
Lagos - - - - -	19,450	18,002
Vicinity of Lagos - - - -	7,712	8,232
Northern district - - - -	4,545	5,018
Western district - - - -	3,748	4,044
Eastern district - - - -	2,210	2,309
Totals - -	37,665	37,605

Of the total for 1881 there were only 117 Europeans. The religious views of the population at the times of the census of

1871 and 1881 are represented in the following table, furnished by the registrar:—

Heading.	Estimated Number.	
	1881.	1871.
Church of England - - - -	5,432	3,145
Wesleyan - - - - -	2,137	1,048
Roman Catholic - - -	1,600	572
Baptist - - - - -	216	71
Presbyterian - - - - -	3	2
Mohammedan - - - -	12,023	10,595
Pagan - - - -	53,858	44,787
Atheist - - - -	1	1
Total - -	75,270	60,221

In Sir Francis Burton's "Wanderings in West Africa," written in 1863, he remarks as follows on the Island of Lagos:—"It is "said to be five miles in circumference, and to contain 30,000 "inhabitants of whom 700 to 800 are Moslems."

The increase in the decade that ended with 1881 was 15,049, or 25 per cent. On the presumption that the same rate has continued the population of the Colony should have been in 1887, 86,559.

Even if the system of registration were perfect, or generally operative, which is far from being the case, it must be acknowledged that the difference between births and deaths does not alone regulate the population, which is augmented to no inconsiderable extent by the number of escaped slaves who succeed from time to time in reaching the Colony, and in thus securing their natural liberty. In the direction of promoting a more complete and reliable system of registration the question of fresh legislation is under the consideration of the Government.

Particulars, supplied by the registrar, of births, marriages, and deaths for 1886 and 1887 are embodied in the following return:—

Year.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Remarks.
1886 -	249	31	866	9 Europeans and 857 natives.
1887 -	298	35	976	9 Europeans and 967 natives.

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In 1877 an Ordinance was passed to provide for the registration and protection in certain other respects of alien children in the Colony of Lagos. Its operation extended to Lagos, Badagry, Palma, and Leckie, and the extent of such operation can be gauged from the following details, from which it will be observed that in the ten years ended with 1887 there were registered 3,556 persons, made up of 1,540 males and 2,016 females.

Registration does not necessarily mean residence. The numbers are interesting, among other reasons, as showing the commercial and educational intercommunication, and the effect of expatriation consequent on intertribal warfare.

Take the registration of Egba children. We have here some proof of the commercial and educational connexion between Abeokuta and Lagos. Again, the comparatively heavy record of Ijeshas points to the unfortunate result of the war that has so long raged against the Ibadans, which impoverished the country, and, apart from the captives of war, it is said, indeed, necessitated in some instances, the sale of freeborn children to get the means to prolong the struggle. Registration record has perceptibly diminished since the establishment of peace by the Government in 1886.

Next the registration of Popos (Ewes) points to the Dahomey and Porto Novo connexion with the Western District and Lagos. The same may be said of the Niger, which for 1886 and 1887 was only represented by nine each year.

Analysis of Tribes of Alien Children registered in Lagos, Badagry, and Leckie, 1878 *to* 1887 *inclusive.*

Tribes.	Lagos.			Badagry.			Leckie.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total,
Abunu - -	4	8	12	1	—	1	1	—	1
Addo - -	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-African -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Apin - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ashagu - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Awori - -	—	4	4	1	—	1	—	—	—
Barba - -	—	4	4	1	—	1	—	—	—
Benin - -	4	7	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bonny - -	3	8	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass - -	4	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Calabar - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congo - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dahomians -	—	—	—	2	2	4	—	—	—
Efon - -	44	54	98	4	11	15	—	4	4
Egba - -	131	404	535	17	11	28	2	2	4

Tribes.	Lagos.			Badagry.			Leckie.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Egbado - -	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ejuku - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ekiti - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eko or Lagosian	32	22	54	7	5	12	—	—	—
Fanti - -	11	11	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gambari - -	9	10	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gbari - -	1	2	3	1	—	1	—	1	1
Gbonna - -	11	15	26	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grushi - -	3	7	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Houssa - -	35	41	76	8	1	9	—	2	2
Ibo - -	3	14	17	4	1	5	—	—	—
Ifeh - -	28	64	92	—	—	—	3	2	5
Ije - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ijesha - -	222	346	568	21	10	31	26	13	39
Ilaro - -	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ijoh - -	2	1	3	—	—	—	12	9	21
Illorin - -	36	62	98	—	—	—	1	—	1
Jebu - -	34	34	68	3	3	6	33	19	52
Jolah - -	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kanike - -	3	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kemberi - -	1	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ketu - -	2	1	3	1	1	2	—	—	—
Koranko - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kroo - -	91	1	92	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kukuruku -	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Liberian - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahin - -	5	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mandingo -	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meko - -	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mushi - -	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Niger tribes -	57	116	173	—	1	1	1	1	2
Okeodan - -	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ondo - -	16	21	37	3	2	5	1	3	4
Opobo - -	3	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oshe - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ota - -	6	5	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Owo - -	4	5	9	—	—	—	1	1	2
Popo - -	46	36	82	214	194	408	1	—	1
Rio Pongas -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salaga - -	6	18	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sierra Leone -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

LAGOS.

Tribes.	Lagos.			Badagry.			Leckie.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tapa - -	37	63	100	7	15	22	1	—	1
Timineh - -	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown -	21	38	59	4	—	4	1	1	2
Yagba - -	14	21	35	1	—	1	1	—	1
Yoruba - -	116	138	254	85	71	154	2	—	3
Grand Total -	1,067	1,628	2,695	385	328	713	88	60	148

Ecclesiastical.

The following return of the churches and other buildings used for public worship, and of clergy, for 1887 is compiled from the information received from the heads of the different Christian religious bodies:—

Denominations.	No. of Clergy.	Churches and other Places for Public Worship.			Remarks.
		Number.	Persons for whom there is Accommodation.	Average Attendance.	
Church of England - -	8	17	5,050	2,623	
Wesleyan Methodist - -	6	9	2,680	2,500	
Roman Catholic - - -	6	4	2,650	1,695	
Baptist - - - -	3	1	600	200	

The labours of these bodies are not confined to the Colony but extend also generally throughout Yoruba.

The following table will show the position of the Mohammedans in Lagos capital, from information afforded by the senior Alimami:—

Denomination.	No. of Alimami or other Officiator.	Buildings used for Worship.		Average Attendance of Men.	Remarks.
		No. of Mosques.	Accommodation for Men.		
Mohammedan - -	36	36	3,050	3,000	Women do not attend mosques.

It may be said that Ilorin is viewed as the local Mecca; with it Lagos has now constant communication *viâ* (1) Abeokouta, Iseyin, Oyo, and Ogbomoso, and (2) *viâ* Artigere, Ode-ondo, Ilesa, and Ila.

Education.

No indigenous schools, in a secular sense, have existed in Yoruba which might have formed, as in other countries, bases for development. Village schools have had to be established, by missionary bodies as their means and work will allow from time to time, from the children of their respective denominations. These represent generally the centres of attraction for Christianizing and education, and do not receive from the native authorities, who are, unfortunately, strictly conservative both as regards their ignorance and indifference, the encouragement they deserve. It is not sufficient for them to find their children in many cases offered gratuitous maintenance and education; they themselves, in some instances, desire, and indeed think, they should get consideration either in money or kind for allowing their children to go to school. Among Mohammedans the instruction of youth has been, and is, regarded as a religious duty, and village schools are to be found among them, but not of a secular nature. Among them religious sentiment and Islam tradition have not, it is gratifying to know, debarred Mohammedans from availing themselves of the public instruction offered by the Christian missionary bodies.

No Government school exists in the Colony. To the Christian religious bodies, who have stood alone since the cession as the popular educators, Lagos and the Yoruba country generally owe a great debt; they deserve the earnest sympathy of the Government and of the public.

The following particulars are taken from the educational returns for 1887 rendered by the heads of the Christian bodies :—

Denomination.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Scholars on Register.		Total.
				Males.	Females.	
Church of England - -	1887	18	37	890	531	1,421
Wesleyan Methodist - -	„	6	6	251	188	439
Roman Catholic - - -	„	5	13	300	254	554
Baptist - - - -	„	2	5	152	101	253
Totals - -	—	31	61	1,593	1,074	2,667

Their educational labours are mainly conducted through native agency extending, with a certain amount of European supervision, over all Yoruba, and indeed beyond.

Followers of Islam, although in many instances their children are to be found in Christian educational institutions, have their own Mohammedan schools; their labours are directed, as I found in the Gambia, mainly to the promotion of the tenets of Mohammed, their instruction being almost exclusively confined to the teaching of Arabic from its grammar to the Koran, and to imparting a knowledge of Mohammedan history.

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There are 37 Mohammedan schools in Lagos capital.

Denomination.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Scholars.		Total.
				Males.	Females.	
Mohammedan -	1887	37	42	917	208	1,125

In no school of the Church Missionary Society is tuition confined to English. The vernacular (Yoruba) is taught in all. Indeed Yoruba is generally used as the medium of instruction. Attending those schools of the Church Missionary Society which are situated within the Colony I find 163 Mohammedan boys and 24 Mohammedan girls.

Among the Wesleyan schools are found 62 Mohammedan boys and 19 girls. From the high school of this society vernacular is excluded, but it is taught, together with English, in all the elementary schools. The Roman Catholic schools included in their attendance 21 Mohammedan boys and three girls. Here tuition is confined to English.

Twenty-eight Mohammedan pupils, viz., 12 boys and 16 girls, attend the Baptist schools, where both English and vernacular are taught. The Christian schools beyond the jurisdiction Mohammedan children do not attend. Industrial education has not received the attention or encouragement its importance deserves. To the extent of domestic economy for girls, printing and agriculture for boys, it is to be found somewhat promoted in a few of the schools. There used to be here, as in the other British West African possessions, an annual distribution of money, on the lump grant system without any Government control, to the amount of 600*l.* to the Christian religious bodies for educational purposes.

This system ended with 1887. Payment by result began with 1888.

An Ordinance, No 3, consolidating and amending the laws, relating to the promotion of education, was on the 30th May 1887 passed by the local Legislature.

Its principal object was to render grants in aid of schools strictly dependent upon merit.

Rules under the Ordinance were also passed under which schools are entitled as of right to grants for passes in primary subjects, the three R's in English, for organisation and discipline, and for a high standard of general excellence; grants may be also made for passes in secondary or class subjects, including vernacular, and in industrial training.

All schools that come under the operation of the Ordinance are open to children without distinction of religion or race. No child receives religious instruction to which the parent or guardian objects, or is present when such instruction is given at the school.

Every assisted school is bound to receive pauper or alien children, within the meaning of the Lagos "Alien Children Registration Ordinance, 1877," assigned to it by the Governor, in such numbers and upon such terms as may be fixed by the Board of Education.

The Board of Education consists of the Legislative Council, the Inspector of Schools, and the following nominated gentlemen, who have been appointed by the Governor for the period of one year from 1st January 1888 :—

Rev. James Vernall, Church Missionary Society.
Rev. J. H. Willington, Wesleyan Missionary Society.
Rev. P. Pellet, Roman Catholic Mission.
Rev. P. A. Eubank, Baptist Missionary Society.

In April 1887 the Inspector of Schools, the Rev M. Sunter, visited the schools of the Colony, when he reported "the schools "are decidedly lower in the educational scale than in 1884."

Out of a total of 2,573 then on the rolls, only 617 were presented for examination in primary schools and 162 in secondary schools; even this number showed only mod rate proficiency.

The discipline and management of the schools were reported to be very inefficient, and the teachers appeared to the Inspector insufficiently trained.

The Ordinance of 1887 specially provides for the issue of teachers' certificates. Under the same Ordinance five scholarships of 10*l.* each for four years have been established, under certain rules regulating their grant, to enable children of primary schools to attend secondary schools.

The annual inspection of the schools of the Colony of Lagos has been arranged to take place in October or November of each year. This should prove the most productive time as regards earnings.

Lagos has been approved as a centre for examinations for matriculation and for the degrees of B.A. or LL.B. appointed to be held from time to time by the University of London.

Finally, at the census of 1881 the children numbered 16,055. Allowing for an increase since of 25 per cent. for $\frac{6}{10}$ of the decade, as with the general population, and making a deduction of one fourth for those under four years who do not attend schools, the result will be 13,848 as the probable number of children available for public instruction. Of this number we find on the registers of Christian schools 2,667, and attending Mohammedan schools 1,125, giving a total of 3,792, or 28 per cent., of the estimated total population of children of an age fit to attend. Here it must be remembered that the children attending Christian schools alone receive secular education.

The following statistics will show the progress of educational work since 1862, the year after cession. At that time there were established the Church of England and Wesleyan schools, with 220 and 186 scholars respectively on the registers.

In 1871 the Roman Catholic and Baptist schools began their work, with 272 and 32 scholars respectively.

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Return of Schools, &c., for the Years 1862–1887.

Denomination.	Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Masters and Assistants.	Scholars on Register.			Remarks.
				Male.	Female.	Total.	
Church of England -	1862	3	4	136	84	220	
Wesleyan - -	„	1	1	116	70	186	
						406	
Church of England -	1863	4	7	256	163	419	
Wesleyan - -	„	1	2	75	55	130	
						549	
Church of England -	1864	—	—	—	—	—	
Wesleyan - -	„	1	1	117	88	205	
						205	
Church of England -	1865	—	—	197	120	317	
Wesleyan - -	„	—	—	133	84	217	
						534	
Church of England -	1866	6	17	344	237	581	
Wesleyan - -	„	1	2	100	66	166	
						747	
Church of England -	1867	7	7	308	225	533	
Wesleyan - -	„	1	—	99	69	168	
						701	
Church of England -	1868	5	17	469	324	793	
Wesleyan - -	„	2	5	168	123	291	
						1,084	
Church of England -	1869	4	8	346	208	554	
Wesleyan - -	„	2	2	171	152	323	
						877	

Denomination.	Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Masters and Assistants.	Scholars on Register.			Remarks.
				Male.	Female.	Total.	
Church of England -	1870	8	16	523	365	888	
Wesleyan - -	„	3	6	313	227	540	
						1,428	
Church of England -	1871	12	16	529	448	977	
Wesleyan - -	„	3	3	333	236	569	
Roman Catholic -	„	1	4	169	103	272	
Baptist - - -	„	1	1	12	20	32	
						1,850	
Church of England -	1872	11	17	393	236	629	
Wesleyan - -	„	2	2	195	119	314	
Roman Catholic -	„	—	—	—	—	—	
Baptist - - -	„	—	—	—	—	—	
						943	
Church of England -	1873	11	23	449	245	694	
Wesleyan - -	„	2	6	146	82	228	
Roman Catholic -	„	1	6	95	140	235	
Baptist - - -	„	—	—	—	—	—	
						1,157	
Church of England -	1874	12	24	510	312	822	
Wesleyan - -	„	2	6	127	58	185	
Roman Catholic -	„	1	4	107	143	250	
Baptist - - -	„	—	—	—	—	—	
						1,257	
Church of England -	1875	12	22	596	435	1,031	
Wesleyan - -	„	4	12	238	150	388	
Roman Catholic -	„	1	6	107	144	251	
Baptist - - -	„	—	—	—	—	—	
						1,670	
Church of England -	1876	13	23	582	426	1,008	
Wesleyan - -	„	5	11	302	235	537	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	6	125	130	255	
Baptist - - -	„	—	—	—	—	—	
						1,800	

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Denomination.	Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Masters and Assistants.	Scholars on Register.			Remarks.
				Male.	Female.	Total.	
Church of England -	1877	16	27	654	469	1,123	
Wesleyan - -	„	7	17	483	509	992	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	8	143	137	280	
Baptist - - -	„	1	2	24	25	49	
						2,444	
Church of England -	1878	16	30	656	574	1,230	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	18	408	250	658	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	9	165	135	300	
Baptist - - -	„	1	2	27	25	52	
						2,240	
Church of England -	1879	17	33	939	761	1,700	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	20	360	238	598	
Roman Catholic -	„	3	9	190	147	337	
Baptist - - -	„	1	1	23	20	43	
						2,678	
Church of England -	1880	15	34	728	567	1,295	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	21	331	232	563	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	9	145	171	316	
Baptist - - -	„	1	2	27	23	50	
						2,224	
Church of England -	1881	17	31	750	502	1,252	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	24	329	236	565	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	7	158	179	337	
Baptist - - -	„	1	3	38	30	68	
Hussey Charity -	„	1	1	15	—	15	
						2,237	
Church of England -	1882	20	34	799	562	1,361	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	22	340	250	590	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	8	179	126	305	
Baptist - - -	„	2	4	67	38	105	
						2,361	

Denomination.	Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Masters and Assistants.	Scholars on Register.			Remarks.
				Male.	Female.	Total.	
Church of England -	1883	20	34	815	554	1,369	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	19	328	242	570	
Roman Catholic -	„	2	12	91	59	150	
Baptist - - -	„	5	5	218	190	408	
						2,497	
Church of England -	1884	20	35	801	494	1,295	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	16	281	193	474	
Roman Catholic -	„	1	10	145	108	253	
Baptist - - -	„	4	5	266	239	505	
						2,527	
Church of England -	1885	20	19	801	494	1,295	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	8	281	193	474	
Roman Catholic -	„	1	1	145	108	253	
Baptist - - -	„	4	2	266	239	505	
						2,527	
Church of England -	1886	16	28	869	496	1,365	
Wesleyan - -	„	8	17	244	206	550	
Roman Catholic -	„	4	6	262	249	511	
Baptist - - -	„	2	5	136	102	238	
						2,664	
Church of England -	1887	18	37	890	531	1,421	
Roman Catholic -	„	5	13	300	254	554	
Wesleyan - -	„	6	6	251	188	439	
Baptist - - -	„	2	5	152	101	253	
						2,667	

Currency, Banking, Weights and Measures.

In the matter of money circulation, Ordinance No 2 of 1880 enacts the legal tender schedule as follows:—

1. Gold and silver, British sterling.

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	£	s.	d.
2. Gold coins, foreign :—			
Spanish South American doubloons at	3	4	0
Half doubloons - - -	1	12	0
American double eagles - -	4	2	0
American eagles - - -	2	1	0
American half eagles - -	1	0	6
American quarter eagles - -	0	10	3
French 20-franc pieces - -	0	15	10
3. Gold-dust and nuggets, per oz. -	3	12	0

Provision 3 of the schedule applies to the Gold Coast Colony, of which Lagos at the date of the above enactment formed part.

The use of cowries, which are still current, is getting less and less.

Remittances from the Colony are made by means of Bills of Exchange and Post Office orders; the former are received, as required, by the Government at par.

Bank notes are not a legal tender; the number in circulation is very small.

The cost of importing specie is 1½ per cent. freight, and 7*s.* 6*d.* per cent. insurance.

Bronze money is in small but growing use.

The rate of interest charged locally for money varies from 20 per cent. to 60 per cent. per annum, or, on small loans among the poorer classes, 6*d.* to 1*s.* in the pound per month.

Beyond the Treasury savings bank no banking institution exists.

The cash imports and exports for the last ten years are given hereunder :—

Imports.			Exports.		
Year.	Gold.	Silver.	Year.	Gold.	Silver.
	£	£		£	£
1878 -	—	30,025	1878 -	—	—
1879 -	100	21,640	1879 -	—	1,903
1880 -	—	14,404	1880 -	—	14,648
1881 -	8,991	3,283	1881 -	—	7,797
1882 -	27,896	9,589	1882 -	—	2,721
1883 -	21,960	6,510	1883 -	—	2,761
1884 -	27,034	12,784	1884 -	—	227
1885 -	6,772	12,095	1885 -	—	220
1886 -	4,678	173	1886 -	526	3,421
1887 -	8,193	5,100	1887 -	70	700
Total -	105,624	115,603	Total -	596	34,378

Legislation to regulate the use of weights and measures is under the consideration of the Government.

Imports and Exports.

The following table shows the value of the imports into, and exports from, the Colony of Lagos since its cession, in 1861, to the British Crown :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Surplus of Imports.	Surplus of Exports.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - - -	77,932 19 7	61,932 9 4	16,000 10 3	—
1863 - - -	171,138 13 6	158,341 7 3	12,797 6 3	—
1864 - - -	120,709 5 3	166,093 8 1	—	45,384 2 10
1865 - - -	116,282 19 5	175,636 1 2	—	59,353 1 9
1866 - - -	220,766 3 8	262,699 9 4	—	41,933 5 8
1867 - - -	321,997 19 10	513,157 18 3	—	191,159 18 5
1868 - - -	340,815 6 10	517,253 17 11½	—	176,438 11 1½
1869 - - -	416,895 1 6	669,598 12 0	—	252,703 10 6
1870 - - -	400,558 5 9	515,365 14 0	—	114,807 8 3
1871 - - -	391,653 8 10	589,802 9 7	—	198,149 0 9
1872 - - -	366,256 0 6	444,848 12 3	—	78,592 11 9
1873 - - -	258,883 12 6	406,986 7 10	—	148,102 15 4
1874 - - -	348,636 2 3	486,327 17 6	—	137,691 15 3
1875 - - -	459,736 19 0	517,535 17 6	—	57,771 18 6
1876 - - -	476,812 12 8	619,260 0 2	—	142,447 7 6
1877 - - -	614,359 4 1	734,707 11 6	—	120,348 7 5
1878 - - -	483,623 8 11	577,336 2 1	—	93,712 13 2
1879 - - -	527,871 17 1	654,379 11 10	—	126,508 14 9
1880 - - -	407,369 14 10	576,510 0 9	—	169,150 5 11
1881 - - -	333,659 9 9	460,007 3 7	—	126,347 13 10
1882 - - -	428,883 5 11	581,064 1 6	—	152,180 15 7
1883 - - -	515,393 15 3	594,136 5 0	—	78,742 9 9
1884 - - -	538,220 19 8	672,413 19 9	—	134,193 0 1
1885 - - -	542,564 6 5	614,181 1 4	—	71,616 14 11
1886 - - -	357,831 5 11	538,980 7 2	—	181,149 1 3
1887 - - -	415,343 7 3	491,468 19 5	—	76,125 12 2

A most useful compilation of statistical returns of the Colony of exports and imports from 1876 to 1885 was published in 1887 by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons.

This compilation embraced the exports and imports, with their directions, in detail for the 10 years mentioned.

In this report such statistics have been continued in the same form, hereafter given, as matter of public use and convenience, for 1886 and 1887.

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Principal Imports into the Colony of Lagos in 1886 *and* 1887.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Absinthe	France	105	19	63¾	13
	Porto Novo	6⅛	4	20	9
	Germany	—	—	17½	13
		111⅛	23	101¼	35
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Aërated waters	Great Britain	324	477	418	630
	France	1	1	9	6
	Germany	63	96	214	85
	Belgium	—	—	3	5
	Porto Novo	6	4	4	3
	Grand Canary	—	—	20	13
	Calabar	2	2	—	—
	Little Popo	—	—	1	1
		396	580	669	743
Ammunition	Great Britain	65	186	936	1,033
	France	—	—	541	483
	Germany	10	28	590	585
	Porto Novo	1	1	6	4
	Accra	1	4	—	—
	Kutonu	2	2	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	1
	River Niger	1	2	—	—
	Quittah	—	—	2	1
		80	223	2,076	2,107
		Doz.		Doz.	
Ale and porter	Great Britain	651	119	650	227
	France	5	2	502	159
	Germany	3,674	1,292	3,391	959
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	118	26	3	3
	Benin	4	1	—	—
		4,453	1,521	4,546	1,348
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Beads	Great Britain	111	1,665	182	1,394
	France	—	—	2	444
	Teneriffe	2	15	—	—
	Sierra Leone	18	72	29	102
	Brazils	1	2	15	79
	Cape Coast	1	1	20	31
	Little Popo	3	20	1	2
	Porto Novo	2	95	3	2
	Accra	11	86	3	6
	Quittah	1	5	1	5
	River Niger	1	53	13	21
	Old Calabar	—	—	4	1
	Loanda	3	30	—	—
	Salt Pond	2	50	—	—
	Akassa	—	—	1	10
		156	2,094	274	2,097

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Nos.	£	Nos.	£
Boats and canoes	Great Britain	6	874	1	15
	France	2	70	—	—
	Brazils	—	—	1	7
	Germany	1	240	5	193
	Madeira	—	—	2	13
	Bonny	1	13	—	—
	Monrovia	—	—	1	3
		10	1,197	10	231
		Galls.		Galls.	
Brandy	Great Britain	100	101	203	211
	Germany	294	280	100	54
	Porto Novo	2	2	2	3
	France	—	—	20	3
		396	383	325	271
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Building materials	Great Britain	2,236	3,268	7,306	8,455
	France	65	87	53	30
	Germany	1,045	1,388	1,305	1,351
	Brazils	4	16	1	1
	New York	—	131	—	181
	Bonny	—	31	—	—
	Belgium	—	—	97	322
	Akassa	—	44	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	28	48	12	19
	Accra	—	—	3	5
	Goree	6	22	—	—
	River Niger	—	1	—	—
	Little Popo	2	2	—	—
	Gaboon	—	—	10	6
		3,386	5,038	8,788	10,371
Canvas and tarpaulin	Great Britain	26	182	12	54
	Germany	9	171	2	24
	France	4	5	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	3
		39	358	16	81
Carts and carriages	Great Britain	16	448	35	158
	Germany	1	19	—	—
		17	467	35	158

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs	£	Pkgs.	£
Chemicals and drugs	Great Britain	211	869	277	912
	Germany	9	10	14	6
	Brazils	6	22	5	15
	New York	4	4	2	3
	Porto Novo	1	1	1	2
	Little Popo	3	10	—	—
	Bonny	1	10	—	—
	Sierra Leone	2	1	5	18
	Teneriffe	—	—	4	14
	Accra	1	1	—	—
	Monrovia	—	—	2	10
		238	928	310	980
		Nos.		Nos.	
Cigars	Great Britain	6,729	20	26,700	65
	France	2,100	6	300	17
	Germany	178,680	432	269,375	663
	Brazils	69,650	126	45,500	100
	Teneriffe	4,000	7	—	—
	Porto Novo	700	2	300	1
	Akassa	200	2	—	—
	Benin	1,200	7	5,000	28
	Little Popo	50	1	1,100	5
	Grand Canary	—	—	4,300	8
		263,309	603	352,575	887
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Clocks and watches	Great Britain	28	84	48	218
	Germany	4	9	19	150
	Brazils	6	15	1	2
	Teneriffe	—	—	2	3
	Sierra Leone	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	9	—	—
	Accra	1	1	—	—
	New York	—	—	1	1
		43	119	71	374
China and glassware	Great Britain	170	766	279	1,176
	France	3	4	—	—
	Germany	558	238	44	171
	Porto Novo	6	4	2	1
	Brazils	4	3	—	—
	New York	1	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	2	3	2	3
	Calabar	1	1	—	—
	Quittah	1	2	—	—
	Little Popo	1	5	—	—
	Accra	—	—	2	2
	Bonny	1	2	—	—
	Akassa	1	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	1
		749	1,030	330	1,354

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Coal -	Great Britain -	2,364	1,580	1,734	853
	Germany - -	106	79	211	208
	Madeira - -	—	—	150	61
	Belgium - -	20	15	—	—
	Forcados River -	—	—	12	4
		2,490	1,674	2,107	1,126
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Cordage	Great Britain -	469	2,990	392	1,760
	France - -	1	4	1	4
	Sierra Leone -	—	—	1	2
	Germany - -	45	526	24	219
	Porto Novo - -	—	—	3	1
		515	3,520	421	1,986
Cotton goods	Great Britain -	8,610	134,049	11,006	168,717
	France - -	9	99	1	3
	Germany - -	251	3,170	493	7,359
	Brazils - -	7	28	—	—
	New York - -	2	3	—	—
	Madeira - -	4	115	—	—
	Sierra Leone -	27	316	29	270
	Gambia - -	6	105	1	2
	Accra - -	10	17	28	32
	Cape Coast - -	9	12	10	17
	Grand Bassam -	—	—	2	1
	Little Popo - -	4	5	2	1
	Quittah - -	1	1	6	6
	River Niger - -	3	39	10	50
	Opobo - -	2	5	5	25
	Benin - -	—	—	2	1
	Bonny - -	3	12	4	12
	Old Calabar - -	2	4	4	15
	Gaboon - -	1	1	—	—
	Congo - -	1	3	—	—
	Akassa - -	8	22	—	—
	Brass - -	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo - -	41	178	48	614
	Kutonu - -	—	—	1	2
		9,001	138,184	11,653	177,128
Country cloths	River Niger - -	21	360	19	376
	Akassa - -	16	604	3	5
	Brass - -	10	75	15	443
	Sierra Leone -	11	197	3	3
	Quittah - -	1	30	—	—
	Porto Novo - -	1	3	—	—
	Accra - -	—	—	72	100
		60	1,269	112	927

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Cowries	France	21	276	4	82
	Great Britain	—	—	—	—
	Germany	5	33	—	—
	Brazils	1	2	—	—
	Zanzibar	236	1,536	—	—
	Porto Novo	32	286	22	246
	Brass	—	—	2	15
	Kutonu	28	141	6	52
	Accra	1	4	—	—
	Mozambique	—	—	158	951
		324	2,278	192	1,346
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Cutlery	Great Britain	159	648	213	705
	Germany	434	1,061	564	1,085
	Porto Novo	19	148	4	7
	Little Popo	1	2	—	
	Akassa	-	—	1	2
		613	1,859	782	1,799
Earthenware	Great Britain	750	3,419	858	3,940
	France	4	20	11	56
	Germany	43	95	6	19
	Brazils	27	32	14	11
	River Niger	2	4	—	—
	Grand Canary	—	—	1	1
	Sierra Leone	1	3	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	3	1	1
	Opobo	2	3	—	—
	Brass	—	—	3	28
		832	3,579	894	4,056
Furniture	Great Britain	137	1,792	153	1,312
	Germany	23	88	7	14
	Grand Canary	15	18	1	7
	Madeira	5	13	8	6
	New York	3	20	14	10
	Bonny	3	5	—	—
	Brazils	1	1	4	16
	Sierra Leone	10	42	1	5
	Porto Novo	2	3	1	2
	Accra	1	1	—	—
	Calabar	1	3	—	—
	Teneriffe	6	11	23	111
	France	5	28	3	30
		212	2,025	215	1,513

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Geneva	Germany	495,621	40,425	547,802	51,059
	France	4,688	515	5,001	441
	Porto Novo	821	19	85	12
	Opobo	—	—	8	8
	Little Popo	2	1	2	1
	Accra	—	—	8	1
	Calabar	32	4	2	2
	Great Britain	—	—	8,504	670
		501,164	40,964	561,412	52,194
		Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	Great Britain	746	1,125	495	725
	Germany	—	—	—	—
	France	1,174	2,274	752	1,250
	Little Popo	4	16	—	—
	Accra	—	—	80	240
		1,924	3,415	1,327	2,215
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Gold Dust	Cape Coast	3	101	2	60
	Accra	—	—	1	58
		3	101	3	118
		Nos.		Nos.	
Guns	Great Britain	1,711	678	1,712	674
	France	356	113	500	168
	Germany	1,718	737	131	87
	Brazils	1	1		—
	Cape Coast	16	16	4	1
	Accra	—	—	4	2
	Porto Novo	1	2	2	7
	Salt Pond	—	—	1	5
		3,803	1,547	2,354	944
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Haberdashery	Great Britain	477	5,642	654	8,127
	France	1	2	2	4
	Germany	45	132	52	262
	Brazils	63	262	24	54
	Sierra Leone	7	24	8	17
	New York	—	—	4	8
	Fernando Po	1	1	1	3
	Little Popo	—	—	1	2
	Calabar	1	30	2	5
	Forcados	—	—	1	15
	Porto Novo	8	30	2	2
	Benin		—	4	94
	Akassa	7	6	5	84
	Teneriffe	—	—	2	3
	Opobo	6	62	2	1
	Bonny	1	2		—

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pks.	£	Pkgs.	£
Haberdashery —*cont.*	River Niger	4	8	—	—
	Accra	11	20	8	9
	Cape Coast	3	6	7	22
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
		636	6,228	779	8,712
Hardware	Great Britain	10,691	6,047	9,159	5,988
	France	100	456	524	528
	Germany	2,015	1,427	2,242	2,159
	Brazils	12	24	—	—
	New York	2	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	3	3	8	10
	Porto Novo	15	39	1	1
	Madeira	1	1	1	1
	Accra	2	2	1	1
	Little Popo	—	—	1	7
	Cape Coast	1	1	2	1
	Opobo	1	7	—	—
	Bonny	10	120	—	—
	Teneriffe	—	—	1	9
	Benin	1	1	15	82
	Calabar	2	3	—	—
	Brass	2	1	40	11
	Winnebah	—	—	119	12
		12,858	8,133	12,114	8,810
Jewellery	Germany	—	—	1	23
	Great Britain	11	84	14	149
	Akassa	—	—	2	5
	Calabar	1	8	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1	1
	Cape Coast	2	26	1	156
	Benin	—	—	1	11
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	1
		14	118	21	346
Kolah Nuts	Sierra Leone	46	206	93	782
	Cape Coast	47	412	78	632
	Accra	204	1,673	258	962
	Salt Pond	5	38	15	162
	Winnebah	3	19	—	—
	Opobo	6	8	47	76
	Akassa	4	5	2	5
	River Niger	4	2	—	—
	Quittah	2	6	1	3
	Old Calabar	—	—	9	31
		321	2,369	503	2,653

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Lamps	Great Britain	42	161	48	186
	France	1	5	—	—
	New York	—	—	2	1
	Germany	7	20	18	66
	Calabar	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	1
		51	187	69	254
Leather	Great Britain	3	47	3	24
	Germany	1	1	—	—
	River Niger	3	14	—	—
		7	62	3	24
Machinery	Great Britain	86	453	88	599
	France	1	7	1	10
	Germany	42	211	5	70
	Brazils	7	33	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	2	14
	Teneriffe	1	2	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	5
	New York	5	8	—	—
	Monrovia	—	—	1	3
		142	714	98	701
Matches	Great Britain	94	653	127	875
	Germany	66	249	122	526
	Bonny	22	153	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	2	1	1
	Addah	1	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
		187	1,059	250	1,402
Musical Instruments	Great Britain	31	451	25	473
	Teneriffe	—	—	4	7
	Germany	17	225	10	67
	Porto Novo	1	1	—	—
	New York	—	—	1	7
	Calabar	1	15	—	—
	Goree	1	10	—	—
	Akassa	—	—	1	3
		51	702	41	557
Oakum	Great Britain	130	83	97	68
	Germany	1	2	1	1
		131	85	98	69

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Oil-Lamp, Paint, Engine, &c.	Great Britain	1,021	906	472	690
	France	53	45	28	23
	Germany	912	534	855	447
	Brazils	291	114	101	30
	New York	909	213	1,039	190
	Madeira	3	9	21	34
	Porto Novo	11	10	31	28
	Teneriffe	13	10	11	9
	Little Popo	2	2	—	—
	Aghwey	—	—	1	1
	Akassa	37	18	1	1
	Benin	1	1	—	—
	Grand Canary	—	—	299	133
	Kutonu	1	1	—	—
	Opobo	—	—	1	1
		3,254	1,863	2,860	1,587
Paint	Great Britain	883	243	217	87
	France	—	—	1	3
	Germany	263	165	131	118
	Teneriffe	1	1	—	—
	Akassa	—	—	5	2
		1,147	409	354	210
Perfumery	Great Britain	68	160	102	287
	Grand Canary	—	—	1	1
	Germany	26	35	196	101
	Madeira	—	—	5	11
	France	2	3	1	1
	New York	—	—	27	16
	Brazils	8	3	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1	2
	Cape Coast	3	1	—	—
	Accra	—	—	3	3
	Calabar	23	17	—	—
	Akassa	—	—	12	19
	Quittah	1	1	2	1
	Porto Novo	36	29	12	17
	Teneriffe	—	—	2	7
		167	249	364	466
Photographic Apparatus	Great Britain	15	68	17	80
	Germany	—	—	1	1
	New York	1	7	—	—
	Accra	6	21	—	—
	Teneriffe	—	—	1	10
		22	96	19	91

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Pipes, smoking	Great Britain	757	487	1,801	938
	France	4	23	—	—
	Germany	36	66	150	114
	Teneriffe	3	12	—	—
	Little Popo	—	—	14	6
	Brass	2	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	16	7	—	—
	Accra	—	—	1	1
		818	596	1,967	1,060
Pitch and tar	Great Britain	155	141	3	3
	France	8	7	5	4
	Germany	50	57	36	32
	Porto Novo	6	2	—	—
	Little Popo	2	2	—	—
		221	209	44	39
		Nos.		Nos.	
Pistols and revolvers	Great Britain	454	74	158	30
	Germany	—	—	18	25
	Brazils	8	9	—	—
	Accra	4	2	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	5	2
		466	85	181	57
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Potash	Brazils	6	19	7	10
	Brass	—	—	317	493
	River Niger	37	263	214	179
	Whydah	—	—	1	60
	Akassa	4	40	1,036	6,290
	Addah	—	—	2	2
	Sierra Leone	2	40	1	4
	Accra	—	—	9	12
		49	362	1,587	7,050
Printing materials	Great Britain	42	343	12	111
Provisions	Great Britain	3,432	9,007	3,355	9,781
	France	131	177	59	103
	Germany	791	2,585	958	1,371
	Brazils	194	1,933	53	460
	New York	340	74	52	80
	Belgium	16	3	6	2
	Madeira	143	132	75	82
	Sierra Leone	65	103	205	284
	Akassa	11	44	—	—
	Teneriffe	16	17	35	51
	Accra	3	4	17	10

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Provisions—*cont.*	River Niger -	4	2	4	1
	Benin - -	4	10	—	—
	Kutonu - -	65	42	—	—
	Quittah - -	1	1	28	12
	Porto Novo - -	93	53	96	131
	Goree - -	27	21	—	—
	Cape Coast - -	10	15	16	9
	Ahgwey - -	—	—	2	4
	Little Popo - -	2	2	2	3
	Opobo - -	—	—	2	4
	Gambia - -	2	12	—	—
	Winnebah - -	—	—	1	1
	Calabar - -	20	85	2	3
	Elmina - -	—	—	2	2
	Grand Canary -	80	4	206	71
	Salt Pond - -	—	—	2	1
		5,450	14,326	5,178	12,466
		Galls.		Galls.	
Rum -	Great Britain -	9,128	723	2,377	575
	France - -	2,157	103	1,342	99
	Germany - -	547,691	24,455	460,242	19,973
	Brazils - -	45,793	3,661	38,704	3,302
	New York - -	96	10	—	—
	Porto Novo - -	2,213	179	942	57
	Quittah - -	825	51	—	—
	Bonny - -	38	3	—	—
	Grand Canary -	459	33	—	—
	Teneriffe - -	77	6	—	—
	Cape Coast -	16	7	—	—
	Little Popo - -	2	1	2	1
		608,495	29,232	503,609	24,007
		Tons.		Tons.	
Salt -	Great Britain -	3,963	5,243	4,312	5,766
	Germany - -	2,108	5,963	939	2,376
	Belgium - -	40	60	—	—
	Sierra Leone -	47	91	—	—
	Porto Novo - -	33	40	—	—
	Brass - -	—	—	20	65
		6,191	11,397	5,271	8,207
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Saddlery	Great Britain -	10	93	20	175
	New York - -	—	—	1	10
	Germany - -	2	5	—	—
	Teneriffe - -	1	14	—	—
	Sierra Leone -	—	—	1	3
		13	112	22	188

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Nos.	£	Nos.	£
Shooks	Great Britain	9,216	9,622	7,115	7,320
	France	1,602	1,045	855	855
	Germany	1,748	1,662	1,570	1,571
	Brazils	14	2	—	—
	Porto Novo	124	124	4	6
	Cape Coast	5	3	1	1
	Brass	—	—	30	30
	Quittah	3	3	—	—
	Winnebah	—	—	133	128
		12,712	12,461	9,708	9,911
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Silk goods	Great Britain	35	2,127	38	2,377
	Germany	2	23	1	76
	France	—	—	2	32
	Brazils	1	11	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	1
		38	2,161	42	2,486
Soap	Great Britain	707	347	873	256
	Teneriffe	—	—	2	2
	France	16	13	14	5
	Opobo	—	—	1	1
	Germany	230	72	932	65
	Little Popo	—	—	3	4
	Brazils	1	1	2	1
	Grand Bassam	—	—	4	5
	New York	71	6	—	—
	Accra	—	—	1	1
	Calabar	6	2	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	6	2	37	12
		1,037	443	1,870	353
Stationery, books, &c.	Great Britain	310	2,154	417	2,285
	Germany	18	68	25	133
	France	4	2	10	15
	Madeira	2	3	1	6
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	1
	New York	1	2	2	8
	Grand Bassam	—	—	1	1
	Bonny	2	5	—	—
	Ahgwey	—	—	2	5
	Sierra Leone	10	23	3	10
	River Niger	—	—	—	—
	Teneriffe	2	12	2	6
	Akassa	—	—	1	5
	Goree	1	4	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	4
		350	2,273	466	2,479

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Sugar (refined) -	Great Britain -	510	728	244	764
	France - -	9	13	4	5
	Germany - -	10	14	2	1
	New York - -	6	10	10	15
	Porto Novo - -	5	7	6	5
	Teneriffe - -	—	—	1	1
		540	772	267	791
Sugar (unrefined) -	Great Britain -	157	220	52	115
	Brazils - -	10	15	9	6
	Germany - -	—	—	1	1
		167	235	62	122
Tinware -	Great Britain -	104	366	145	586
	Accra - -	—	—	3	2
	Brazils - -	4	7	—	—
	Cape Coast - -	—	—	2	1
	Sierra Leone -	1	2	1	1
	Porto Novo - -	—	—	1	1
		109	375	152	591
		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Tobacco -	Great Britain -	570,821	14,252	493,625	11,260
	France - -	9,409	326	6,078	176
	Germany - -	40,748	1,432	220,631	6,015
	Brazils - -	533,555	11,315	379,425	7,938
	Cape Coast - -	4	1	—	—
	Porto Novo - -	267	10	159	7
	Calabar - -	460	8	—	—
	Accra - -	—	—	10	1
	Teneriffe - -	15	1	—	—
	Grand Canary -	—	—	1,400	34
	New York - -	60,386	1,667	30,785	636
	Sierra Leone -	1,000	30	—	—
		1,216,665	29,042	1,132,113	26,067
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Wearing apparel -	Great Britain -	223	2,453	297	3,580
	France - -	1	1	5	35
	Germany - -	43	364	29	269
	Teneriffe - -	5	32	3	22
	Madeira - -	5	34	2	12
	Sierra Leone -	4	6	13	60
	Porto Novo - -	14	43	21	20
	Accra - -	3	5	8	11
	Fernando Po. -	3	5	—	—
	Calabar - -	2	43	1	13
	Akassa - -	9	332	2	15
	River Niger - -	8	45	11	376
	Salt Pond - -	—	—	1	18
	Brazils - -	17	55	5	29
	Brass - -	—	—	8	20

Articles.	Direction.	1886. Quantities.	1886. Value.	1887. Quantities.	1887. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Wearing apparrel—*cont.*	Bonny	2	14	1	2
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	4
	Quittah	1	9	—	—
	Addah	—	—	1	1
		340	3,441	410	4,487
		Galls.		Galls.	
Wines	Great Britain	1,845	835	1,509	938
	France	1,123	96	1,097	130
	Germany	3,502	1,123	2,736	1,028
	Brazils	98	20	23	3
	Madeira	1,127	288	1,430	301
	Teneriffe	136	21	700	47
	Goree	432	43	—	—
	Porto Novo	613	129	1,232	239
	Kutonu	293	22	—	—
	Accra	—	—	37	40
	Cape Coast	6	3	—	—
	Grand Canary	—	—	68	14
	Benin	5	1	—	—
	Congo	—	—	1	1
		9,180	2,581	8,833	2,741
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Specie (gold)	Great Britain	2	700	1	1,000
	Germany	9	3,978	8	7,110
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	83
		11	4,678	11	8,193
Specie (silver)	Great Britain	2	173	10	5,000
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	91
	Akassa	—	—	1	9
		2	173	13	5,100
Woollen goods	Great Britain	79	1,901	71	1,324
	France	1	1	1	2
	Congo	—	—	2	1
	Germany	10	188	23	374
	Brazils	3	13	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	8
	Porto Novo	3	9	—	—
	Brass	—	—	1	1
	Accra	3	21	4	9
	Bonny	2	17	1	1
	Opobo	1	1	1	3
		102	2,151	105	1,723
Value, principal articles		—	354,701	—	410,389
Value, other articles		—	3,130	—	4,954
Totals		—	357,831	—	415,343

Principal Exports from the Colony of Lagos in 1886 *and* 1887.

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.		1886.	1887.
Ale and porter	Porto Novo	Doz.	508	610
		£	124	194
Beads	Sierra Leone	„	125	116
	Half Jack	„	17	—
	Accra	„	53	18
	Elmina	„	3	—
	Opobo	„	1	10
	Cape Coast	„	6	9
	Addah	„	10	—
	Quittah	„	—	4
	River Niger	„	—	5
	Great Britain	„	—	5
Beniseed	Great Britain	Tons	4	1
		£	38	10
	Germany	Tons	—	7
		£	—	51
Building materials	Porto Novo	„	125	245
	River Niger	„	—	16
	Accra	„	—	3
Calabashes	Sierra Leone	„	34	20
	Cape Coast	„	3	3
	Accra	„	2	1
	Brazils	„	23	32
	Great Britain	„	3	4
Chemicals and drugs	Porto Novo	„	1	2
	River Niger	„	54	1
	Agweh	„	20	—
	Accra	„	2	—
	Brazils	„	—	1
	Sierra Leone	„	—	—
	Great Britain	„	—	1
Cigars	Porto Novo	No.	—	86,000
		£	—	127
Clocks and watches	Porto Novo	„	4	18
	Great Britain	„	—	133
Coals	Porto Novo	Tons	20	—
		£	15	—
Cocoa	Great Britain	Lbs.	2,751	671
		£	106	39
Coprah	Great Britain	Tons	8 Cwts.	—
		£	4	—
	Portugal	Tons	—	9
		£	—	9
Cordials	Porto Novo	Glls.	87	257
		£	87	51

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.		1886.	1887.
China and glassware	Accra	£	3	10
	Addah	„	23	6
	River Niger	„	9	—
	Cape Coast	„	50	—
	Porto Novo	„	9	47
	Quittah	„	—	6
Cotton (raw)	Great Britain	Lbs.	96,980	116,375
		£	1,813	2,003
	Germany	Lbs.	—	5,360
		£	—	90
Cotton goods	Porto Novo	„	8,715	16,999
	Addah	„	43	—
	Whydah	„	—	200
	Great Britain	„	379	121
	Accra	„	22	5
	Abomey	„	—	70
	Agweh	„	80	—
	Sierra Leone	„	39	—
	Kutonu	„	—	1,648
	River Niger	„	4,015	1,056
	Quittah	„	179	174
	Opobo	„	—	4
	Cape Coast	„	18	—
Country cloths	Opobo	„	242	163
	Accra	„	2,352	1,355
	Addah	„	544	149
	Cape Coast	„	587	527
	Sierra Leone	„	932	1,873
	Sherbro	„	—	12
	Bonny	„	97	—
	Gambia	„	—	21
	Half Jack	„	94	—
	Grand Bassam	„	3	—
	Quittah	„	536	365
	Great Britain	„	14	—
	Brazils	„	997	1,161
	Winnebah	„	—	34
Cowries	Porto Novo	Tons	20	59
		£	188	613
	River Niger	Tons	426	—
		£	3,402	—
	Benin	Tons	—	20
		£	—	192
Earthenware	Porto Novo	„	312	420
	Great Britain	„	14	1
	Sierra Leone	„	1	—
	Kutonu	„	—	31
Furniture	Porto Novo	„	13	6
	Great Britain	„	1	6
	Sierra Leone	„	—	6
Geneva	Porto Novo	Glls.	95,892	146,676
		£	8,860	13,919
	Benin	Glls.	3,500	—
		£	400	—
	Croo Coast	Glls.	290	486
		£	33	56

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.		1886.	1887.
Gum	Great Britain	Lbs.	1,430	1,771
		£	35	17
	Germany	Lbs.	—	70
		£	—	2
Gunny bags	Porto Novo	„	88	—
Gunpowder	Porto Novo	Brls.	160	—
		£	226	—
	Croo Coast	Brls.	25	20
		£	33	28
Guns and revolvers	Porto Novo	No.	1,061	543
		£	424	252
	Accra	No.	2	—
		£	1	—
	Addah	No.	10	—
		£	4	—
Haberdashery	Porto Novo	„	44	37
	Great Britain	„	7	5
	Old Calabar	„	1,085	—
	Quittah	„	—	6
	River Niger	„	473	—
	Sierra Leone	„	10	26
	Brazils	„	—	1
	Accra	„	—	3
	Germany	„	—	7
Hardware	Great Britain	„	23	18
	Porto Novo	„	200	508
	River Niger	„	36	10
	Cape Coast	„	—	1
	Quittah	„	10	
	Accra	„	—	1
	Germany	„	150	—
Hides	Great Britain	Lbs.	1,876	871
		£	28	27
	Germany	Lbs.	4,011	7,782
		£	114	204
India rubber	Great Britain	Lbs.	112	67
		£	10	3
	Germany	Lbs.	—	25
		£	—	1
Ivory	Great Britain	Lbs.	10,228	7,543
		£	3,805	2,806
	Germany	Lbs.	3,705	8,757
		£	1,014	3,016
Jewellery	River Niger	„	52	—
	Great Britain	„	—	114
Kolah nuts	Brazils	„	1,037	304
	River Niger	„	196	16
	Sierra Leone	„	129	10
	Great Britain	„	6	143
Matches	Porto Novo	„	—	128
	River Niger	„	—	4

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1886.	1887.
Matchets - -	Porto Novo - £	149	242
Oil, palm - -	Great Britain - Glls.	2,533,463	1,979,642
	£	180,134	125,367
	Portugal - Glls.	80,550	3,180
	£	5,615	239
	America - Glls.	9,970	—
	£	692	—
	Germany - Glls.	240,017	430,250
	£	12,183	21,253
	France - Glls.	155,950	45,900
	£	10,639	2,173
	Brazils - Glls.	77,588	47,174
	£	3,930	2,135
Palm kernels - -	Great Britain - Tons.	13,692	13,251
	£	119,805	104,501
	France - Tons.	2,153	1,613
	£	12,851	13,994
	Germany - Tons.	17,707	20,436
	£	111,605	143,657
	Portugal - Tons.	110	484
	£	1,110	4,808
	Kutonu - Tons.	150	—
	£	1,050	—
	Denmark - Tons.	1,000	—
	£	9,000	—
Perfumery - -	Opobo - - „	10	—
	River Niger - „	15	—
	Porto Novo - „	—	33
Potash - - -	Sierra Leone - Tons.	2	8 cwts.
	£	32	21
	Accra - Tons.	12 cwts.	3 cwts.
	£	18	8
	Agweh - Tons.	8 cwts.	—
	£	44	—
	Quittah - Tons.	2 cwts.	—
	£	3	—
	Porto Novo - Tons.	—	6
	£	—	500
Provisions - -	Benin - - „	6	—
	Agweh - - „	1	—
	Accra - - „	16	8
	Sierra Leone - „	84	12
	Gambia - - „	6	—
	Brazils - - „	49	34
	Little Popo - - „	1	—
	Great Britain - „	16	2
	Porto Novo - „	234	319
	River Niger - „	47	22
	Croo Coast - - „	4	—
	Germany - - „	—	6
	Opobo - - „	—	1
Rum - - -	Porto Novo - Glls.	57,109	102,321
	£	2,827	4,937
	Benin - Glls.	11	—
	£	2	—
	Accra - Glls.	3	—
	£	1	—
	River Niger - Glls.	325	—
	£	50	—

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.		1886.	1887.
Salt	Porto Novo	Tons.	390	314
		£	1,049	1,101
	River Niger	Tons.	42	20
		£	115	28
Shea butter	Cape Coast	„	728	1,035
	Winnebah	„	1	10
	Brazils	„	16	29
	Elmina	„	1	—
	Accra	„	73	65
	Opobo	„	1	—
	Sierra Leone	„	—	16
	Great Britain	„	—	113
Shooks	Porto Novo	„	756	484
	River Niger	„	34	—
Silk goods	Germany	„	225	—
	Great Britain	„	—	6
Soap	Accra	„	1	—
	Brazils	„	162	196
	Cape Coast	„	—	1
	Sierra Leone	„	3	—
	Porto Novo	„	4	3
	Great Britain	„	—	2
	Addah	„	—	1
	Cape Palmas	„	—	3
Soda-water	Porto Novo	„	5	35
Specie	Great Britain	„	2,142	70
	Brazils	„	53	4
	Porto Novo	„	1,025	700
	River Niger	„	728	—
Steam launch	Germany	„	625	—
Straw	Benin	„	1	—
	Brazils	„	188	36
Tobacco	Porto Novo	Lbs.	513,678	455,757
		£	11,616	9,896
	Benin	Lbs.	1,600	—
		£	45	—
	Cape Coast	Lbs.	150	100
		£	7	3
Twine or cordage	Great Britain	„	—	64
	Porto Novo	„	376	349
Wearing apparel	Gambia	„	216	—
	Porto Novo	„	26	43
	Great Britain	„	9	9
	River Niger	„	116	5
	Quittah	„	—	7
	Accra	„	—	1

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.		1886.	1887.
Wines - - -	Porto Novo -	Glls.	2,003	454
		£	308	165
	Accra - -	Glls.	4	—
		£	1	—
	Kutonu - -	Glls.	—	50
		£	—	7
	River Niger - -	Glls.	—	9
		£	—	3
Woollen goods - -	Accra - - -	„	5	—
	Addah - - -	„	36	2
	Sierra Leone - -	„	55	—
	Porto Novo - -	„	9	—
	Quittah - - -	„	—	80
Yellow metal - -	Great Britain - -	„	13	—
Other articles - -	- - - -	„	858	454
	Grand total -	„	538,980	491,469

Shipping.

The total number of sailing vessels entered for 1887 was 25, with a tonnage of 7,863, and crews amounting to 234. In the previous year the numbers under like headings were 35, 10,255, and 324. For 1886 and 1887 no British sailing vessels entered; the vessels for both years were foreign.

The sailing vessels cleared in 1887 totalled 24, with tonnage in the aggregate of 7,185, and 223 in crews.

The number of steam vessels entered was 462, with a gross tonnage of 253,218, and a total in crews of 13,170. Of this number the British tonnage was represented by 188,051, as compared with 65,167 foreign. There cleared during the year 463 steamers, with a tonnage in the aggregate of 250,557, and crews that numbered 15,812. Prior to 1873 records do not distinguish between sailing and steam vessels. In proof of, and by way of comparing, the growth of the trade since the cession of Lagos to the British Crown, it will be observed from the following statistics that whereas in 1863, the year after the cession, the tonnage of shipping, both sailing and steam, only aggregated 29,591, of which 21,755 was British and 8,602 foreign, in 1887 the Colony was visited by 462 steamers, which grossed 253,218 tons (of which 188,051 was British), and 25 sailing vessels with a total tonnage of 7,683 (foreign).

The following particulars admit of ready comparison between 1863 and 1887:—

—	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1863 - - -	99	29,591	1,789
1887 - - -	487	260,901	13,404

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Therefrom it will be observed that in 24 years the carrying power increased five times, and the tonnage multiplied itself nearly nine times, and the crews nearly eight times.

Again, while in 1863 the foreign tonnage proportione $\frac{5}{13}$ths of British, in 1887 it reached nearly $\frac{1}{3}$. In 1878 foreign steam power, when it was represented by a tonnage of 4,251, first made itself felt at Lagos; in 1887 it had developed to 65,167.

Hereunder are tables of entries and clearances of sailing and steam vessels with cargoes and in ballast, from the cession in 1861 of Lagos to the British Crown to and for 1887, with the annual distinction of the tonnage between British and foreign.

Vessels, Sail and Steam, Entered.

Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1862 -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1863 -	96	29,128	1,758	3	463	31	99	29,591	1,789
1864 -	125	34,560	2,115	7	796	78	132	35,356	2,193
1865 -	104	32,470	1,956	7	877	66	111	33,347	2,022
1866 -	145	43,711	2,415	6	1,342	60	151	45,053	2,475
1867 -	194	62,642	3,504	4	1,802	44	198	64,444	3,548
1868 -	171	60,316	3,538	12	2,339	121	183	62,655	3,659
1869 -	272	98,290	5,483	15	2,108	184	287	100,398	5,667
1870 -	244	97,230	5,377	14	2,565	134	258	99,795	5,511
1871 -	253	120,306	6,550	25	5,470	229	278	125,776	6,779
1872 -	230	110,929	5,987	38	7,759	332	268	118,688	6,319

Vessels, Sail and Steam, Cleared.

Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1862 -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1863 -	97	29,439	1,780	6	918	66	103	30,357	1,846
1864 -	124	33,789	2,095	4	676	34	128	34,465	2,129
1865 -	111	33,641	2,026	3	592	28	114	34,233	2,054
1866 -	129	40,827	2,240	6	1,306	74	135	42,133	2,314
1867 -	202	63,664	3,541	2	584	25	204	64,248	3,566
1868 -	175	60,677	3,569	3	597	47	178	61,274	3,616
1869 -	279	101,625	5,776	10	1,316	157	289	102,941	5,933
1870 -	251	98,143	5,488	4	799	41	255	98,942	5,529
1871 -	270	124,090	6,735	5	1,078	48	275	125,168	6,783
1872 -	259	117,462	6,211	9	1,953	81	268	119,415	6,292

Tonnage of Vessels Entered in the Colony of Lagos from 1862 *to* 1872.

Years.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1862 - - -	—	—	—
1863 - - -	21,464	8,127	29,591
1864 - - -	21,663	13,693	35,356
1865 - - -	21,956	11,391	33,347
1866 - - -	30,174	14,879	45,053
1867 - - -	44,391	20,053	64,444
1868 - - -	46,575	16,080	62,655
1869 - - -	64,125	36,273	100,398
1870 - - -	77,218	22,577	99,795
1871 - - -	106,003	19,773	125,776
1872 - - -	97,423	21,265	118,688

Tonnage of Vessels Cleared from the Colony of Lagos between 1862 *and* 1872.

Years.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1862 - - -	—	—	—
1863 - - -	21,755	8,602	30,357
1864 - - -	21,275	13,190	34,465
1865 - - -	21,874	12,359	34,233
1866 - - -	28,177	13,956	42,133
1867 - - -	43,837	20,411	64,248
1868 - - -	46,039	15,235	61,274
1869 - - -	74,383	28,558	102,941
1870 - - -	76,874	22,068	98,942
1871 - - -	106,431	18,737	125,168
1872 - - -	96,542	22,873	119,415

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Sailing Vessels Entered from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1873 -	153	25,345	1,677	25	4,086	207	178	29,431	1,884
1874 -	163	27,440	1,613	29	6,084	262	192	33,524	1,875
1875 -	186	34,643	1,756	20	3,409	176	206	38,052	1,932
1876 -	206	38,499	2,310	16	3,388	134	222	41,887	2,444
1877 -	216	40,698	2,680	25	6,578	369	241	37,276	3,049
1878 -	131	33,804	1,273	19	3,827	164	150	37,631	1,437
1879 -	126	31,761	1,112	12	2,798	95	138	34,559	1,207
1880 -	91	26,758	927	5	1,332	48	96	28,090	975
1881 -	67	18,555	639	2	840	23	69	19,395	662
1882 -	77	20,212	694	2	479	17	79	20,691	711
1883 -	72	19,937	663	—	—	—	72	19,937	663
1884 -	54	13,488	473	—	—	—	54	13,448	473
1885 -	65	18,679	560	—	—	—	65	18,679	560
1886 -	35	10,255	324	—	—	—	35	10,255	324
1887 -	25	7,683	234	—	—	—	25	7,683	234

Sailing Vessels Cleared from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1873 -	165	27,123	1,728	5	633	56	170	27,756	1,784
1874 -	211	39,154	2,160	—	—	—	211	39,154	2,160
1875 -	196	36,230	2,079	3	305	56	199	36,535	2,135
1876 -	208	39,204	2,425	7	778	106	215	39,982	2,531
1877 -	236	44,751	3,061	8	1,586	128	244	46,337	3,189
1878 -	131	31,784	1,088	1	165	7	132	31,949	1,095
1879 -	132	32,923	1,154	2	552	19	134	33,475	1,173
1880 -	95	27,093	932	1	167	13	96	27,260	945
1881 -	64	17,882	611	—	—	—	64	17,882	611
1882 -	73	19,117	659	—	—	—	73	19,117	659
1883 -	63	17,089	571	2	466	18	65	17,555	589
1884 -	53	13,202	468	—	—	—	53	13,202	468
1885 -	62	17,641	561	—	—	—	62	17,641	561
1886 -	35	10,056	323	1	615	11	36	10,671	334
1887 -	24	7,185	223	—	—	—	24	7,185	223

Tonnage of Sailing Vessels Entered in the Colony of Lagos from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1873 - - -	8,113	21,318	29,431
1874 - - -	11,872	21,652	33,524
1875 - - -	11,132	26,920	38,052
1876 - - -	12,587	29,300	41,887
1877 - - -	12,236	35,040	47,276
1878 - - -	10,550	27,081	37,631
1879 - - -	4,316	30,243	34,559
1880 - - -	938	27,152	28,090
1881 - - -	799	18,596	19,395
1882 - - -	217	20,474	20,691
1883 - - -	—	19,937	19,937
1884 - - -	586	12,862	13,448
1885 - - -	1,233	17,446	18,679
1886 - - -	—	10,255	10,255
1887 - - -	—	7,683	7,683

Tonnage of Sailing Vessels Cleared in the Colony of Lagos from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1873 - - -	7,504	20,252	27,756
1874 - - -	16,316	22,838	39,154
1875 - -	10,551	25,984	36,535
1876 - - -	14,153	25,829	39,982
1877 - - -	13,024	33,313	46,337
1878 - - -	11,135	20,814	31,949
1879 - - -	5,186	28,289	33,475
1880 - - -	966	26,294	27,260
1881 - - -	538	17,344	17,882
1882 - -	217	18,900	19,117
1883 - - -	—	17,555	17,555
1884 - - -	293	12,909	13,202
1885 - - -	1,526	16,115	17,641
1886 - - -	—	10,671	10,671
1887 - - -	—	7,185	7,185

LAGOS.

Steam Vessels Entered from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1873 -	96	89,401	4,552	—	—	—	96	89,401	4,552
1874 -	97	94,827	4,654	—	—	—	97	94,827	4,654
1875 -	100	100,871	4,952	—	—	—	100	100,871	4,952
1876 -	97	100,217	4,741	—	—	—	97	100,217	4,741
1877 -	102	114,174	5,001	—	—	—	102	114,174	5,001
1878 -	213	145,325	6,831	3	516	92	216	145,841	6,923
1879 -	288	145,024	8,889	4	826	88	292	145,850	8,977
1880 -	261	161,645	8,441	9	1,005	188	270	162,650	8,629
1881 -	244	146,415	8,610	7	1,401	202	251	147,816	8,812
1882 -	254	154,823	9,011	8	1,476	182	262	156,299	9,193
1883 -	211	175,401	8,518	5	726	107	216	176,127	8,625
1884 -	254	175,347	9,553	20	3,486	417	274	178,833	9,970
1885 -	320	192,760	9,561	22	2,763	423	342	195,523	9,984
1886 -	367	205,170	10,739	31	8,674	623	398	213,844	11,362
1887 -	409	243,444	12,046	53	9,774	1,124	462	253,218	13,170

Steam Vessels Cleared from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1873 -	96	89,401	4,552	—	—	—	96	89,401	4,552
1874 -	96	94,127	4,602	—	—	—	96	94,127	4,602
1875 -	101	111,507	4,975	—	—	—	101	111,507	4,975
1876 -	97	99,891	4,755	—	—	—	97	99,891	4,755
1877 -	100	111,875	4,913	—	—	—	100	111,875	4,913
1878 -	216	146,578	7,130	7	723	125	223	147,301	7,255
1879 -	293	143,257	8,904	8	967	145	301	144,224	9,049
1880 -	265	160,438	8,673	7	920	174	272	161,358	8,847
1881 -	239	145,961	8,546	9	1,040	210	248	147,001	8,756
1882 -	260	156,484	9,130	7	897	204	267	157,381	9,334
1883 -	212	175,739	8,544	3	437	99	215	176,176	8,643
1884 -	257	174,721	9,614	18	3,367	487	275	178,088	10,101
1885 -	313	190,375	9,378	26	10,732	551	339	201,107	9,929
1886 -	333	207,308	10,324	64	6,314	1,083	397	213,622	11,407
1887 -	380	243,368	14,727	83	7,189	1,085	463	250,557	15,812

Tonnage of Steam Vessels Entered in the Colony of Lagos from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1873 - - -	89,401	—	89,401
1874 - - -	94,827	—	94,827
1875 - - -	100,871	—	100,871
1876 - - -	100,217	—	100,217
1877 - - -	114,174	—	114,174
1878 - -	141,590	4,251	145,841
1879 - - -	137,274	8,576	145,850
1880 - - -	152,159	10,491	162,650
1881 - - -	137,329	10,487	147,816
1882 - - -	136,053	20,246	156,299
1883 - - -	148,341	27,786	176,127
1884 - - -	160,100	18,733	178,833
1885 - - -	175,568	19,955	195,523
1886 - - -	178,600	35,244	213,844
1887 - - -	188,051	65,167	253,218

Tonnage of Steam Vessels Cleared in the Colony of Lagos from 1873 *to* 1887.

Years.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1873 - - -	89,401	—	89,401
1874 - - -	94,127	—	94,127
1875 - - -	111,507	—	111,507
1876 - -	99,891	—	99,891
1877 - - -	111,875	—	111,875
1878 - - -	143,054	4,247	147,301
1879 - - -	134,690	9,534	144,224
1880 - - -	150,727	10,631	161,358
1881 - - -	136,455	10,546	147,001
1882 - - -	136,777	20,604	157,381
1883 - -	148,685	27,491	176,176
1884 - - -	158,542	19,546	178,088
1885 - - -	181,835	19,272	201,107
1886 - - -	180,331	33,291	213,622
1887 - - -	187,616	62,941	250,557

LAGOS.

Rates of Passage Money and Freight per Steamers of the A. S.S. and B. and A. S.S. Companies, Lagos Roads.

To	First.	Second.	Deck.	Freight per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Liverpool - -	30 0 0	25 0 0	—	—
Madeira - - -	23 0 0	17 0 0	5 15 0	2 10 0
Teneriffe - -	23 0 0	17 0 0	5 15 0	2 0 0
Grand Canary - -	23 0 0	17 0 0	5 15 0	
Goree - - -	15 10 0	11 0 0	4 8 0	1 15 0
Bathurst - -	15 0 0	10 10 0	4 0 0	1 10 0
Sierra Leone - -	12 10 0	8 0 0	3 5 0	
Monrovia - -	9 10 0	6 0 0	2 10 0	1 5 0
Grand Bassa - -	8 10 0	5 5 0	2 5 0	1 0 0
Kroo Coast - -	6 0 0	3 10 0	1 15 0	
Half Jack - -	5 10 0	3 10 0	1 10 0	—
Grand Bassam - -	5 0 0	3 10 0	1 10 0	
Axim - - -	4 0 0	3 0 0	1 10 0	
Cape Coast - -	4 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	0 15 0
Saltpond - -	4 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	
Winnebah - -	4 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	
Accra - - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	
Addah - - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	0 10 0
Quittah - - -	2 0 0	1 10 0	0 7 6	
Little Popo - -	1 10 0	1 0 0	0 5 0	—
Benin - - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	—
Brass and Akassa -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	—
New Calabar - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	—
Bonny - - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	0 15 0
Opobo - - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	
Fernando Po - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	1 5 0
Old Calabar - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	
Cameroon - -	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	
Gaboon on to Landana -	7 0 0	5 10 0	2 0 0	
Congo on to Loanda -	9 10 0	7 10 0	3 5 0	1 15 0

Homeward Rates of Freight from West and South-west Coasts of Africa to Liverpool.

Goods.	Bathurst to Lagos inclusive and Cameroons.	South Coast. Eloby to Loanda inclusive.
Barwood - - per ton gross weight.	20*s.*	20*s.*
Ebony - - do.	20*s.*	20*s.*
Camwood - - do.	30*s.*	30*s.*
Palm kernels - do.	25*s.*	27*s.* 6*d.*
Palm oil - - do.	35*s.*	40*s.*
Cotton seed - - do.	35*s.*	35*s.*
Copra, gum, fibre, seeds, ground nuts, cocoa, coffee - - do.	40*s.*	40*s.*
Ginger, pepper - do.	40*s.*	50*s.*
India rubber, bees wax do.	50*s.*	50*s.*
Ivory - - per lb. net weight.	1*d.*	1*d.*

Ground nuts from ports north of Sierra Leone inclusive 20*s.*

Palm kernels shipped from Sherbro 5*s.* per ton over Sierra Leone rates.

Produce delivered direct at Havre 5*s.* per ton additional.

Produce from St. Thomas will be charged 5 per cent. extra for lighterage.

All rates are with 10 per cent. primage.

Palm oil and palm kernels may be shipped viâ Liverpool for delivery under Company's transit arrangement to Hamburg, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Bremerhaven, Stettin, Havre, Dunkirk, Marseilles, London, Plymouth, Bristol, Swansea, Llanelly, Newport, Cardiff, Port Talbot, and Glasgow. Rates and conditions to be ascertained on application.

Outward Rates of Freight from Liverpool to West and South-west Coasts of Africa.

Goods.	Goree and Dakar.*	Bathurst to Lagos inclusive, and Cameroons.	South Coast. Eloby to Loanda inclusive.
Bricks, cement, coal, earthenware, gunny bags, iron, iron pots, lime, rice, salt, shooks, soap, timber - -	20*s.*	20*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.*
Gin and rum - - - -	20*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.*	25*s.*
Aërated waters, beer, bread, castings, cordage, cowries, felt, flour, furniture, ginger, brandy, glassware, guns, hardware, liqueurs, machinery, matchets, paints, pipes (clay), provisions, spirits, tar, tobacco, wines - -	25*s.*	30*s.*	30*s.*
Gunpowder - - - - -	30*s.*	30*s.*	30*s.*
Beads, brass rods, cottons, drugs, perfumery, woollens, and all goods unenumerated - - - -	30*s.*	40*s.*	40*s.*

Rates to Madeira, Teneriffe, and Grand Canary—20*s.* per ton.

*Rice, gin and rum from Dakar, 3*s.* per ton additional to Goree rates.

Goods for Sherbro, 5*s.* per ton additional to Sierra Leone rate.

Goods for Grand Canary and Ambriz, 10 per cent. extra for lighterage.

Goods for Loanda, 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton extra for lighterage.

All rates are with 10 per cent. primage.

Silks and packages exceeding the value of 100*l.* by special agreement.

Amber, coral, jewellery, plate and specie, on value per cent., 30*s.*

Boats, matches, and other cargo usually carried on deck will be taken by special agreement.

The above rates (except otherwise specified) are per ton gross weight or measurement at ship's option.

Freight payable on delivery of bills of lading.

LAGOS.

Articles of Use or Consumption.

For residents the following average local prices of various articles of ordinary use or consumption may prove of advantage :—

Articles.		Price.	Season.
Wheaten flour - -	per barrel	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	Fluctuation; dependent on American and English markets.
Do. - -	per lb.	6*d.*	
Bread - - -	„	6*d.*	
Milk - - -	per bottle	6*d.*	
Cheese - - -	per lb.	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.*	
Beef - - -	„	6*d.* to 8*d.*	
Mutton - - -	„	9*d.*	
Goat Meat - -	„	9*d.*	
Pork - - -	„	6*d.*	
Rice - - -	„	2*d.* to 2½*d.*	
Coffee - - -	„	2*s.* to 3*s.*	
Tea - - -	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*	
Sugar - -	„	5*d.* to 6*d.*	Procurable the year round.
Salt - - -	per ton	65*s.* to 70*s.*	
Do., table - -	per bottle	1*s.*	
Brandy - - -	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	
Beer - - -	„	1*s.*	
Lemonade - -	„	6*d.*	
Soda-water - -	„	6*d.*	
Ginger ale - -	„	6*d.*	
Tobacco, leaf - -	per lb.	1*s.*	
Do., manufactured -	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	
Do., Brazilian rolls	each 50 lb.	70*s.*	
Charcoal - -	per bag	1*s.*	Scarce in rainy seasons; local manufacture.
Fowls, alive - -	each	6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	Procurable the year round.
Ducks, alive - -	„	2*s.* to 4*s.*	
Ham - - -	per lb.	1*s.* 4*d.*	
Bacon - - -	„	1*s.* 2*d.*	
Palm oil - - -	per bottle	3*d.*	
Wines :—			
Claret - - -	„	1*s.* to 2*s.*	
Sherry - - -	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*	
Port - - -	„	5*s.* to 6*s.*	
Firewood - -	per bundle	3*d.*	
Eggs - - -	each	1*d.*	
Fish - - -	„	3*d.* to 2*s.* and upwards.	Different kinds at different seasons.
Turkeys - - -	„	10*s.* to 30*s.*	
Pigeons - -	per pair	2*s.* 6*d.*	
Guinea fowls - -	each	3*s.*	
Bananas - - -	per bunch	6*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	
Plantains - -	„	„	
Yam - - -	per heap of 120	12*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	
Pineapples - -	each	1½*d.*	
Cassada - - -	per basket	6*d.* to 8*d.*	
Farina - - -	per bag	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	

Agriculture, Cultivated and Uncultivated Lands, &c.

The area of the Colony and Protectorate is returned as 1,069 square miles, comprised within a territorial strip running seaward west and east, and representing what may be viewed as

the seaboard of Yoruba, which extends therefrom some 300 miles inland and is flanked by Dahomey on the west and by the main stream of the Niger on the east. Yoruba has an estimated area of some 25,000 to 30,000 square miles, and may be compared in size to Belgium and Holland. Over it the Government of Lagos has commercial, social, and treaty ties, and has exercised for years an influence which should render its position now beyond dispute or foreign interference.

As to the extent or nature of agriculture, data are not sufficient to warrant any reliable remarks of statistical value.

The staples, rather of Nature's yield than of cultivation, are palm oil and kernels; they have taken the place of the slave traffic of the past, and represent, unhealthily, the commercial idols of this coast.

Towards the development of the commercial resources of the country every encouragement and stimulant have been given by way of example and sympathy to the various agricultural pursuits with the object of bringing about a more fixed vested interest as a counterpoise to the predatory warfare which characterised for many years the component parts of Yoruba.

To such end a botanical centre has been established by the Government as a distributing centre for economic plants of commercial value; it promises to be of great benefit to the country.

For the fruits of its efforts the Government must look to the people's interest and activity and to private enterprise.

In view of the stage of the development of the people, it has been wisely considered as the proper function of the Government to endeavour to supply initial knowledge of the country's worth and capabilities, so as to bring into play private enterprise.

The late Earl of Mayo, one of India's best Governors General, believed in the advantage of governmental example in the form of the establishment by Government of model farms, thinking to prove silently but visibly to cultivators "the value of improve-" ments by the result of actual experiments," and remarked:—

"For generations to come the progress of India in wealth and civilisation must be directly dependent on her progress in agriculture. Agricultural products must long continue the most important part of her exports, and the future development of Indian commerce will mainly depend upon the improvement in the quantity and quality of existing agricultural staples and on the introduction of new products which shall serve as materials for manufacture and for use in the industrial arts."

These words, which I fully endorse, apply with equal weight to Africa.

Grants of Land.

The issue of grants in the island of Lagos has been suspended until a full and complete survey has been made; this question is under the consideration of the Government and is of pressing moment.

LAGOS.

In the outlying parts of the Colony and in the Protectorate the rights and position generally of the Crown remain to be defined, and the sooner it is done the better.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The committals during 1887 totalled 264, as compared with 262 in the previous year. These numbers include respectively 69 and 93 for quasi-military offences committed by members of the constabulary who were punished under the provisions of the Gold Coast Ordinance No. 3 of 1879 by the officer commanding the force. It is hoped in time to keep such offenders apart from the ordinary prisoners.

Only one gaol exists in the Colony, at Lagos.

Accommodation has been on the associated system.

Works are in progress for the supply of the separate system as regards untried, tried, and quasi-military prisoners, and when they are completed Lagos will have as good if not the best gaol in West Africa.

In the districts there are so-called gaols, but they represent merely compounds for the detention of prisoners of sentences of three months and under. Such committals are not included in the statistics for the Lagos Gaol.

Of the foregoing, detailed statistics are subscribed under the following heads:—

A. Proportion of Christians, Mahommedans and Heathens.
B. Proportion of Christian denominations.
C. Nature of offences taken from the warrants of commitments.
D. Nationalities and tribes.
E. Trades and callings.
F. Annual discharge of prisoners from 1878 to 1887.
G. Average ages.
H. Summary of punishments for prison offences.
I. Constabulary offenders and their proportion according to religious belief.

A.

Proportion of Christian, Mahommedan, and Heathen Prisoners.

Denominations.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Christians - - -	43	20	40	31	40	52	34	50	78	67
Mahommedans - - -	105	102	104	75	60	94	60	67	78	92
Heathens - - -	165	303	207	116	132	128	131	108	106	105
Total - -	313	425	351	222	232	274	225	225	262	264

B.

Denominational Proportion of Christian Prisoners.

Christian Denominations.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	Total.
Church of England -	19	7	20	12	16	20	12	17	40	30	193
Wesleyan - -	16	9	17	15	18	17	15	25	32	26	190
Roman Catholic -	7	4	3	2	4	8	6	5	3	10	52
Baptist - - -	1	—	—	2	2	7	1	3	3	1	20
Total - -	43	20	40	31	40	52	34	50	78	67	455

C.

Summary of Crimes of Prisoners as taken from the Warrants of Commitment.

Crimes.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Theft - - - -	20	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Misdemeanour - - -	2	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—
Cutting and wounding -	5	1	3	7	2	—	—	—	2	—
Assault - - - -	37	24	18	8	8	30	21	15	6	—
Larceny - - - -	139	192	183	107	109	104	97	111	81	76
Drunkenness - - -	17	9	7	3	3	3	2	1	2	5
Affray - - - -	9	1	2	3	2	—	—	5	—	10
Contempt of court - -	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	2	2
Using abusive language -	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Murder - - - -	2	—	4	—	—	1	1	5	5	3
Felony - - - -	2	24	3	—	2	1	3	—	—	5
Child stealing - - -	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Abduction of a child - -	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—
Detention of property - -	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neglect of duty - - -	12	62	17	13	15	29	—	—	—	—
Arson - - - -	1	—	3	2	3	—	—	—	1	—
Supplying prisoners with provisions - - -	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Receiving money under false pretences - - -	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Fraud - - - -	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Embezzlement - - -	3	2	2	—	3	—	2	—	1	—
Burglary - - -	9	12	24	6	8	2	2	8	4	12
Escape from prison - -	3	5	4	8	2	2	3	3	4	2
Breach of discipline - -	17	50	44	47	47	47	40	41	92	69
Nuisance - - -	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—

LAGOS.

Crimes.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Unlawfully entering premises	6	3	1	2	—	3	2	—	—	—
Attempt to commit suicide	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
First-class misdemeanants	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manslaughter	2	3	2	4	—	1	2	—	—	1
Disturbing the peace	—	2	2	1	1	7	—	—	2	2
Attempt to commit rape	—	2	3	—	—	—	5	8	12	3
Slave dealing	—	4	7	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Damaging Government property	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
Perjury	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Extortion	—	2	—	—	—	—	6	3	8	13
Receiving stolen property	—	2	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Violating Gold Coast Customs Ordinance	—	8	1	2	1	2	—	—	2	—
Contravention of Prison Ordinance	—	—	—	—	12	1	1	—	—	3
Forgery	—	3	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Misconduct	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Allowing convict to escape	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Disobedience of orders	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Violating Lagos Alien Children's Registration Ordinance	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Detention of a child	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smuggling	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Libel	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Prevarication	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cruelty to animals	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Inciting to mutiny	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Political	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Rape	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
Wounding	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	7	4	15
Robbery with violence	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1
Fighting	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	4	3
Causing bodily harm	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pickpocketing	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Concealing himself on board ship	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Gambling	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	2
Perjury and conspiracy	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Aiding sailor to desert ship	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Misappropriating property	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Interfering with police	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Threatening to commit arson	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Using firearms	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Piracy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Crimes.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Insubordination	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Desertion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Assault and battery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Housebreaking	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	73
Creating disturbance	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Attempt to shoot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Assault and false imprisonment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Sodomy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Assault on police	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Slavery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Harbouring escaped prisoner	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total	313	425	351	222	232	274	225	225	262	264

D.

The Nationalities and Tribes of Prisoners.

Nationalities.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Barba	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	—	1
Igbonna	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Lagosian	48	32	36	24	28	45	21	24	26	35
Kroo	57	130	67	36	35	76	29	42	24	17
Liberian	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yoruba (Oyo)	40	45	46	36	30	31	31	32	36	39
Brass	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Bonny	3	—	2	—	2	—	—	1	3	3
Egba	18	28	20	15	19	12	11	19	10	16
Popo	13	22	22	12	19	12	17	18	36	30
Whydah	1	—	2	1	1	4	1	1	—	—
Calabar	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Houssa	48	43	47	43	31	31	34	28	43	41
Tapa	6	7	9	4	1	4	6	6	4	2
Sierra Leonian	13	9	11	7	10	14	11	11	13	18
Fanti	14	55	27	8	18	2	9	6	3	10
Ijesha	8	11	25	5	6	6	2	7	11	6
Awori	7	4	3	3	3	3	2	1	5	5
St. Helena	2	1	4	3	4	4	1	—	2	—
Owo	7	3	3	5	1	2	5	—	3	1
Ijolo	3	5	5	1	3	—	—	3	2	—
Idoko	1	5	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	2

Nationalities.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887
Ifeh	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	8
Gambian	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Benin	1	—	—	—	—	4	5	1	2	3
Jebu	3	8	5	2	8	3	24	5	9	13
Brazilian	3	3	—	3	2	—	2	—	1	6
Italian	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gbari	3	5	6	2	1	—	4	—	2	—
Addo	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	5	8	3
English	2	—	3	10	—	—	2	—	—	—
German	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
West Indian	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ketu	—	5	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Timineh	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	—	—
Efon	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	3
Niger	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—
American	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1
Yagba	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	1
Epeh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Egbado	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
	313	425	351	222	232	274	225	225	262	264

E.

The Trades and Callings of Prisoners.

Trades, &c.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Clerk	2	4	10	1	4	—	5	2	1	1
Labourer	231	352	266	152	163	177	146	124	70	93
Carpenter	3	—	—	1	3	6	1	4	4	6
Bricklayer	2	—	2	—	2	5	3	—	4	1
Cooper	3	1	—	1	—	2	3	3	2	1
Constable	39	53	57	50	48	46	28	19	53	47
Seamstress	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Seaman	6	4	4	10	—	4	2	—	2	—
Trader	6	3	—	2	3	13	6	12	19	26
Native Chief	10	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Servant	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cook	3	4	3	—	1	2	3	1	4	1
Barber	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tailor	1	2	1	—	1	3	1	1	1	11
Blacksmith	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	3	2	—

Trades, &c.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Shoemaker - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Goldsmith - - -	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	1
Groom - - - -	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Solicitor - - -	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Painter - - - -	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Watchman - - -	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	1	1
Laundress - - -	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Overseer - - -	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Schoolmaster - - -	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Schoolboy - - -	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	—	1
Brickmaker - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Steward - - -	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	6	3	4
Farmer - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	14	23	19
Herbalist - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Fetish priest - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Sawyer - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Fisherman - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	9	13
Boatman - - -	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sailor - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Drummer - - -	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Gardener - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Soldier - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	23	46	27
Bugler - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Baker - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Canoeman - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Engineer - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Apprentice - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
	313	425	351	222	232	274	225	225	262	264

F.

Annual Discharge of Prisoners from 1878 *to* 1887.

1878 - - - - -	231
1879 - - - - -	323
1880 - - - - -	248
1881 - - - - -	168
1882 - - - - -	164
1883 - - - - -	236
1884 - - - - -	177
1885 - - - - -	161
1886 - - - - -	236
1887 - - - - -	232

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G.

The Average Age of Prisoners.

Ages.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
10 years - - -	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
11 „ - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12 „ - - -	2	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
13 „ - - -	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
14 „ - - -	5	—	4	—	—	7	2	—	2	2
15 „ - - -	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	4	1	—
16 „ - - -	2	2	2	—	1	3	1	4	1	1
17 „ - - -	6	2	2	1	—	—	2	—	3	1
18 „ - - -	3	8	6	2	5	3	2	1	3	6
19 „ - - -	5	5	2	4	—	3	1	1	—	—
20 „ - - -	7	8	2	5	2	4	2	2	4	3
21 „ - - -	3	8	4	3	3	4	2	2	3	2
22 „ - - -	8	12	7	6	3	1	—	—	5	1
23 „ - - -	1	8	4	2	3	3	—	1	3	1
24 „ - - -	5	10	11	2	7	6	1	4	2	1
25 „ - - -	3	1	6	6	2	3	4	5	10	2
26 „ - - -	13	17	14	6	6	14	6	—	9	9
27 „ - - -	15	11	4	3	8	13	14	4	12	16
28 „ - - -	27	29	23	15	9	9	25	8	4	9
29 „ - - -	23	51	29	14	17	19	—	6	5	6
30 „ - - -	27	52	49	30	18	21	—	—	20	16
31 „ - - -	23	39	23	14	15	7	25	22	8	8
32 „ - - -	22	22	17	14	10	15	1	8	9	8
33 „ - - -	19	45	23	13	13	19	3	8	8	9
34 „ - - -	3	7	15	12	10	6	3	5	13	9
35 „ - - -	6	13	15	15	11	12	4	6	19	11
36 „ - - -	12	18	20	17	19	22	11	21	8	15
37 „ - - -	6	7	6	1	5	10	20	15	13	19
38 „ - - -	14	5	9	6	11	13	7	14	14	7
39 „ - - -	15	7	9	2	9	10	—	6	8	6
40 „ - - -	14	11	19	13	14	15	6	10	26	21
41 „ - - -	2	4	3	3	2	1	34	30	10	10
42 „ - - -	4	—	4	1	7	—	1	—	6	8
43 „ - - -	1	1	1	—	1	3	3	3	2	6
44 „ - - -	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	5	9
45 „ - - -	1	3	6	1	5	9	2	3	6	4
46 „ - - -	1	—	—	1	2	—	11	6	3	1
47 „ - - -	1	—	—	—	1	7	1	5	3	7
48 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	1	1	7
49 „ - - -	—	—	2	—	1	2	4	2	—	—

Ages.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
50 years - - -	3	8	2	2	5	8	1	2	2	6
51 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	8	1	1
52 „ - - -	2	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	5
53 „ - - -	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2
54 „ - - -	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 „ - - -	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	3	1	2
56 „ - - -	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
57 „ - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
58 „ - - -	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
59 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
60 „ - - -	1	3	3	2	—	—	1	1	5	2
61 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
62 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
63 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
64 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
66 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
67 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
68 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
69 „ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
70 „ - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total - -	313	425	351	222	232	274	225	225	262	264

H.

Summary of Punishments for Prison Offences.

Punishments.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Solitary confinement only -	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	6	1
Solitary confinement with reduced diet - - -	55	20	1	2	1	2	6	9	9	2
Solitary confinement with shot drill and reduced diet	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	—
Solitary confinement with shot drill and flogging -	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Solitary confinement with reduced diet and flogging -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Shot drill only - -	1	—	—	10	6	16	2	4	10	70
Shot drill with reduced diet	6	—	1	—	7	13	2	2	104	171
Reduced diet only - -	29	14	23	11	29	126	73	168	306	187
Flogging only - - -	25	5	—	3	—	—	—	16	17	12
Flogging with shot drill -	1	—	—	10	—	—	—	4	—	—
Extra term of imprisonment only - - - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Extra term of imprisonment with flogging - -	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - - -	127	41	25	36	43	159	88	207	461	443

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I.

Constabulary Offenders and their Proportion according to Religious Belief.

Denominational Distribution.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Christians - - -	2	5	6	5	7	11	4	7	37	31
Mahommedans - -	21	17	20	24	24	22	19	24	41	26
Heathens - - -	9	24	25	23	16	19	16	10	15	12
Total - -	32	46	51	52	47	52	39	41	93	69

Constitution of the Court.

The Supreme Court of the Colony of Lagos is constituted, under Ordinances No. 4 of 1876 and No. 1 of 1888, to be the Supreme Court of Judicature for the Colony of Lagos and Protectorate.

The Court is now presided over by a judge, but may consist of a Chief Justice and of such puisne judges as may be appointed by the Queen.

The Judge or Chief Justice when sitting alone possesses the full jurisdiction, civil and criminal, of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice in England.

A Judge presiding alone sits in civil matters as a Divisional Court. He is judge of the fact and of the law; and any party dissatisfied with a judgment on a claim of 50*l.* or upwards may appeal to the full Court of Appeal which sits at Lagos.

The Chief Justice is the President of the Court of Appeal, which is constituted by the summoning for the purpose of the Chief Justice and Puisne Judge of the Gold Coast Colony.

An ultimate appeal lies to the "Judicial Committee of the Privy Council" in England.

There is no bankruptcy law in the Colony.

Criminal Statistics.

The following particulars embracing statistics for 10 years will admit of comparison between 1878 and 1887.

With reference to the difference noticeable in return marked A. between the number of offences in 1886–87 and the previous years, I was informed by the acting Judge of the Supreme Court that formerly offences in respect of which persons were brought before the Court were included. The mistake was generally pointed out in the Earl of Derby's Circular Despatch of the 30th May 1885, and the necessary change made in later compilations.

The question of the extent now of the general operation of the law with regard to the component territorial parts, represented by districts presided over by Commissioners, which make up the

Colony and Protectorate, has been for some time under the general consideration of the Government.

The healthy expansion, inland and laterally, of our jurisdiction from the recognised centres Lagos, Palma, Leckie, and Badagry, since the erection, in 1886, of Lagos into a separate Colony, has been indeed marked and highly satisfactory.

The eastern limit of the western or Badagry district, which embraces the kingdoms of Appa and Katanu, may be taken as represented by the longitude of the village of Okogbo, which at the census-taking, and by usage, has been considered to be within such district; for like reasons the western limit of the eastern or "Palma and Leckie" district may be deemed to be represented by the longitude of the village of Solu. The district of Lagos, including the northern portion of the Protectorate behind Ebute—Meta, lies between such limits.

The following is a statement showing the number of committals during the past ten years:—

——	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
District Commissioner's Court - - -	206	258	203	124	142	195	128	126	107	124
Superior Court - -	75	121	97	46	41	27	58	58	62	71
Inspector General - -	32	46	51	52	47	52	39	41	93	69
Political prisoners - -	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	313	425	351	222	232	274	225	225	262	264

A.

Criminal Statistics, 1878–1887.

Year.	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1878 - - -	949	289	34	356	270
1879 - - -	995	269	46	400	280
1880 - - -	709	246	48	234	181
1881 - - -	414	168	23	134	89
1882 - - -	804	295	18	235	256
1883 - - -	576	279	69	76	152
1884 - - -	794	457	65	69	203
1885 - - -	648	315	16	169	148
1886 - - -	12	2	—	2	8
1887 - - -	28	4	1	23	—
Total 10 years -	5,929	2,324	320	1,698	1,587

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B

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

Year.	Number Discharged for want of Prosecution.	Number of Cases Dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons summarily Convicted.	Number of Cases committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
1878 - - -	104	71	669	105
1879 - - -	128	47	692	128
1880 - - -	92	128	364	125
1881 - - -	68	15	264	67
1882 - - -	94	145	475	90
1883 - - -	148	130	247	51
1884 - - -	168	174	373	79
1885 - - -	273	75	498	87
1886 - - -	191	64	368	97
1887 - - -	106	106	395	67
Total 10 years -	1,372	995	4,340	896

C.

Distribution under Offences of Summary Convictions.

Year.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences to Property.	Offences relating to Social Economy.	Offences against Master and Servants Acts.	Other Offences.	Total
1878 -	304	14	28	187	29	23	8	669
1879 -	163	18	21	286	79	48	7	692
1880 -	149	2	24	106	38	23	2	364
1881 -	171	2	19	42	7	11	12	264
1882 -	249	10	10	30	5	20	27	351
1883 -	174	12	7	35	30	45	55	358
1884 -	153	7	30	49	19	26	89	373
1885 -	142	—	5	107	39	12	40	345
1886 -	102	1	6	80	28	3	79	299
1887 -	158	—	8	57	39	5	21	288

D.

Punishments in connexion with foregoing.

Year.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of Fine or Surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties or other Minor Punishment.	Total.	Remarks.
1878 - -	355	59	248	6	1	669	
1879 - -	240	52	379	8	13	692	
1880 - -	170	31	151	6	6	364	
1881 - -	128	19	112	4	1	264	
1882 - -	185	23	137	4	2	351	
1883 - -	152	4	195	—	7	358	
1884 - -	165	31	150	—	27	373	
1885 - -	203	10	127	—	5	345	
1886 - -	178	2	109	—	10	299	
1887 - -	178	10	79	—	21	288	
Total 10 years -	1,954	241	1,687	28	93	4,003	

E.

Informations in the Supreme Court.

Year.	Murder other than Wife and Child Murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt to Murder.	Murder of Wife, reputed Wife, or Concubine.	Child Murder.	Concealment of Birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural Crimes.	Other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Robbery with Violence.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.	Total.
1878	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	11	—	—	3	55	28	105
1879	5	3	5	—	—	—	—	2	1	7	—	—	8	68	29	128
1880	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	23	1	8	5	62	13	125
1881	2	4	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	4	—	4	29	15	67
1882	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	12	—	5	8	40	21	90
1883	1	1	9	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	5	4	19	9	51
1884	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	1	18	42	79
1885	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	2	2	35	6	87
1886	8	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	43	—	—	1	34	12	104
1887	6	1	6	—	—	—	—	--	--	34	—	1	3	39	18	108

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F.

Statement as to ending of Cases tried in the Supreme Court.

Year.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the Prisoner.	Prisoners. found Insane.	Cases fell through for want of Prosecution or Nolle prosequi entered.	Total.	Remarks.
1878 -	75	25	—	5	105	
1879 -	98	24	—	6	128	
1880 -	87	22	—	16	125	
1881 -	37	27	—	3	67	
1882 -	47	29	—	14	90	
1883 -	31	20	—	—	51	
1884 -	58	21	—	—	79	
1885 -	57	29	—	—	87	
1886 -	74	28	—	2	104	
1887 -	82	23	—	3	108	

The numbers of offences, apprehensions, convictions and acquittals for the last ten years are afforded in the following Comparative table :—

G.

Headings.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Apprehensions -	949	995	709	414	804	576	794	933	715	880
Convictions - -	744	790	449	301	354	269	414	402	373	497
Acquittals - -	205	205	252	121	174	298	363	378	285	276

Hospitals and Lunatic Asylum.

There remained in the hospital from 1886 18 male and female patients; during 1887 there were admitted 661, of whom 620 were males and 41 females; 23 deaths, as compared with 29 in the previous year, occurred, made up of 19 males and 4 females.

The following is a statistical summary of the internal working of the general and contagious diseases hospitals between 1877 and 1887 :—

	Colonial Hospital.		Small-pox Hospital.		Total.	
Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
1877 - - -	325	31	41	16	366	47
1878 - - -	362	28	201	74	563	102
1879 - - -	420	43	40	17	460	60

Year.	Colonial Hospital.		Small-pox Hospital.		Total.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
1880 - - -	568	67	5	—	573	65
1881 - - -	364	44	9	—	373	44
1882 - - -	356	33	14	2	370	35
1883 - - -	493	40	46	16	539	56
1884 - - -	388	24	172	41	560	65
1885 - - -	595	43	87	20	682	63
1886 - - -	532	29	8	—	540	29
1887 - - -	586	23	5	—	591	23
Total -	4,989	403	628	186	5,617	589

The principal diseases treated during the last 10 years are specified in the following return, which gives for each year the number of in-door and out-door patients treated as well as the number of deaths among the former :—

Diseases.	1877.			1878.			1879.			1880.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
Absorbent system - -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Circulatory -	3	—		5	1		—	—		68	29	
Cutaneous -	32	—		66	1		19	6		81	8	
Digestive -	38	9		34	4		30	12		35	7	
Nervous - -	12	5		6	1		20	5		18	3	
Osseous - -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Respiratory -	13	5		15	5		17	5		18	6	
Genito-urinary -	7	1		15	—		16	1		10	1	
Abscess and ulcers - -	45	1		15	—		84	2		65	1	
Fevers - -	107	7		155	13		131	6		158	5	
Injuries and wounds -	125	3		14	—		72	4		44	2	
Parasitic disease	19	—		18	—		20	—		11	—	
Rheumatism -	—	—		—	—		—	—		28	1	
Other diseases -	24	—		19	3		11	2		32	2	
Totals -	325	31	8,761	362	28	6,213	420	43	32,005	568	67	8,861

LAGOS.

(*Continued.*)

Diseases.	1881.			1882.			1883.			1884.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
Absorbent system - -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Circulatory -	29	8		7	3		16	4		6	2	
Cutaneous -	105	5		80	1		99	2		38	1	
Digestive -	48	17		34	7		33	9		30	9	
Nervous - -	13	3		13	5		16	3		10	2	
Osseous - -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Respiratory -	27	5		33	6		42	10		23	2	
Genito-urinary -	6	2		36	2		30	—		52	—	
Abscess and ulcers - -	30	1		36	1		72	2		96	1	
Fevers - -	19	2		37	1		86	4		7	—	
Injuries and wounds -	22	1		22	1		34	2		75	2	
Parasitic disease	10	—		11	—		22	—		15	—	
Rheumatism -	15	—		31	2		35	—		18	—	
Other diseases -	40	—		16	4		8	4		18	5	
Totals -	364	44	6,103	356	33	6,491	493	40	7,394	388	24	6,694

Continued.)

Diseases.	1885.			1886.			1887.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
Absorbent system - -	17	1		13	—		22	—	
Circulatory -	28	5		11	1		11	1	
Cutaneous -	16	2		108	1		30	—	
Digestive -	85	12		35	1		38	4	
Nervous - -	21	6		14	5		9	—	
Osseous - -	16	—		19	1		10	—	
Respiratory -	26	6		36	6		44	4	
Genito-urinary -	31	4		40	1		27	5	
Abscess and ulcers - -	112	2		20	1		84	—	
Fevers - -	96	3		82	5		55	3	
Injuries and wounds -	53	1		30	—		72	2	
Parasitic disease	37	—		42	—		61	1	
Rheumatism -	34	1		48	1		62	—	
Other diseases -	23	—		34	6		61	3	
Totals -	595	43	5,823	532	29	7,968	586	23	5,894

The cases for the same period admitted annually into the contagious diseases hospital are returned as follows under small-pox, chicken-pox, erysipelas, and leprosy:—

Diseases.	1877.			1878.			1879.			1880.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
Small-pox -	41	16		201	74		40	17		5	—	
Chicken-pox -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Erysipelas -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Leprosy - -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Totals -	41	16		201	74		40	17		5	—	

(*Continued.*)

Diseases.	1881.			1882.			1883.			1884.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
Small-pox -	9	—		14	2		46	16		172	41	
Chicken-pox -	5	—		2	—		—	—		—	—	
Erysipelas -	3	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Leprosy - -	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Totals -	17	—		16	2		46	16		172	41	

(*Continued.*)

Diseases.	1885.			1886.			1887.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.	Cases.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
Small-pox -	87	20		8	—		5	—	
Chicken-pox -	—	—		—	—		—	—	
Erysipelas -	—	—		—	—		—	—	
Leprosy - -	—	—		—	—		1	—	
Totals -	87	20		8	—		6	—	

There is no lunatic asylum in the Colony. This want is presently met by the removal, under Ordinance No. 3 of 1885, of insane persons to the lunatic asylum at Kissy, in the Colony of Sierra Leone, where they are detained and treated at the expense of the Colony of Lagos.

METEOROLOGY.

The Meteorology of the Colony can be studied from the following full and interesting Return which was prepared by Dr. Rowland, the Colonial Surgeon, for the Year 1887.

Months.	Barometer.	Air Temperature.										Vapour Tension.			Relative Humidity.		
					Means of				Absolute Temperature.								
	Mean. Pressure.	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Mean Daily Range of Temperature.	Mean Temperature.	Minimum. On Date.		Maximum. On Date.		At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.
January - - -	29·91	70·20	84·12	77·16	72·9	83·37	10·47	78·135	67	31st	90 24th		·715	·718	·716	82·6	65·0	73·8
February - -	30·00	78·14	84·96	81·55	75·37	85·71	10·14	80·64	65	1st	90 14th		·821	·827	·824	84·6	69·0	76·9
March - - -	29·93	81·16	84·70	82·93	77·99	86·19	8·20	82·09	70	21st	90 26th		·864	·814	·839	81·3	70·7	76·0
April - - -	29·96	80·7	84·10	82·4	77·10	85·40	8·30	81·25	71	9th	90 18th		·891	·857	·874	81·7	70·0	75·8
May - - -	29·92	81·0	84·0	82·50	77·0	84·52	7·53	80·765	70	19th	89 9th		·856	·826	·841	80·9	77·0	78·9
June - - -	30·02	76·10	79·20	77·65	72·75	79·88	7·13	76·315	68	27th	88 3rd		·797	·787	·792	87·7	78·2	82·9
July - - -	30·08	76·70	76·10	76·43	73·38	78·17	4·79	75·775	71	5th	80 21st		·724	·738	·731	79·0	80·0	79·5
August - - -	30·21	74·40	76·20	75·30	71·69	77·38	5·69	74·535	65	4th	80 31st		·690	·696	·693	80·3	77·0	78·6
September - -	30·06	75·40	78·30	76·86	72·98	79·50	6·52	76·24	66	2nd	84 22nd		·733	·725	·729	84·2	77·8	81·0
October - - -	30·51	76·96	80·74	78·85	73·80	81·41	7·61	77·605	69	24th	86 28th		·789	·706	·747	85·2	74·4	79·8
November - -	29·59	79·01	83·07	81·04	75·56	84·54	8·98	80·05	69	1st	96 22nd		·846	·778	·812	82·1	72·7	77·4
December - -	29·99	77·80	84·30	81·00	75·60	85·30	9·7	80·45	73	5th	91 14th		·858	·828	·839	89·3	62·0	75·7
Year - - -	30·01	77·29	81·69	79·49	74·64	82·60	7·96	78·62	65	Feb. 1st & Aug. 4th.	92 Nov. 22nd		·798	·775	·786	83·2	72·9	78·0

Meteorology—*continued.*

Months.	Amount of Cloud.			Weather.				Rainfall.			Direction of Wind.									
				No. of Days of							Number of Observation of									
	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	Rain.	Thunderstorms.	Clear Sky.	Overcast.	Total.	Maximum.	Date.	North.	North-east.	East.	South-east.	South.	South-west.	West.	North-west.	Calm.	Total.
January	2·0	2·0	2·0	1	—	19	—	·55	·55	2nd	4	22	—	—	1	15	—	6	24	—
February	3·8	3·0	3·4	2	—	7	3	1·44	·94	21st	5	9	—	—	—	25	10	9	4	—
March	4·0	4·0	4·0	9	4	8	7	4·42	1·45	10th	4	5	—	—	3	33	5	9	3	—
April	5·7	5·5	5·6	10	2	1	4	4·96	1·50	9th	3	7	1	1	3	16	9	8	12	—
May	4·9	5·1	5·0	16	2	—	—	4·38	1·0	23rd	8	2	1	—	18	8	4	—	12	—
June	5·5	5·4	5·4	24	4	2	20	33·17	4·8	9th	6	5	—	—	—	13	19	7	10	—
July	6·0	6·0	6·0	15	1	2	5	15·83	3·40	7th	2	—	—	—	10	21	21	5	3	—
August	7·0	7·0	7·0	5	—	—	9	1·05	·50	15th	1	—	—	—	4	20	33	4	—	—
September	8·0	6·0	7·0	1	—	—	9	·01	·01	29th	—	—	—	—	—	12	44	6	—	—
October	7·2	3·4	5·3	10	3	—	13	3·79	2·15	26th	5	1	3	—	8	9	34	2	—	—
November	5·9	5·7	5·8	3	1	1	1	·49	·38	6th	10	4	1	—	13	17	7	3	3	—
December	6·1	4·3	5·2	2	2	7	10	·71	·51	26th	16	1	—	1	14	19	12	3	6	—
							Total 70·8													
Year	5·5	4·7	5·1	8·1	1·5	3·9	6·7	6·73	·48	June 9th	5·3	3·8	·5	·16	6·1	16·5	17·3	5·1	6·4	—

It may be added that daily observations are taken, recorded, and published regularly in the Monthly Gazette of the Government.

LAGOS.

Savings Bank.

Under Ordinance No. 3 of 1886 a savings bank was established at the beginning of the year 1887 in association with the Treasury.

The minimum deposit is fixed at 1*s.*, the maximum in one year at 100*l.*, while the total amount that may be deposited is limited to 500*l.* The rate of interest is 6*d.* per 1*l.* per annum.

The sums deposited during the year amounted to 1,449*l* 13*s.* 11*d.* Withdrawals totalled 355*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* On the close of 1887 the Government was liable to the public for the sum of 1,094*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* on account of deposits, and of 17*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* on account of interest due thereon. Of this liability the sum of 1,000*l.* has been transferred by the Crown Agents from the general investments of the Government, and continued as an investment yielding 4½ per cent. on account of Lagos Savings Bank. The depositors number 46, composed of 2 clergymen, 1 merchant, 1 master of vessels, 10 Government employés, 1 schoolmaster, 3 traders, 6 mechanics, 5 seamstresses, 2 seamen, 6 printers, 1 servant, 4 minors, 1 police constable, 2 telegraph clerks, 1 labourer. In each monthly Government Gazette there is a record of the transactions of the bank for the month.

Notwithstanding the suspicious and conservative nature of the native, the considerable system of money lending at high interest that prevails, and in view of the slow spread, in such a community, of the knowledge of its aim and object, the bank may be viewed as having made a promising start.

Telegraphs.

Lagos has means of direct telegraphic communication with Europe, and with other parts of the world by means of its cable connexion with the Brazilian Submarine and the Eastern Telegraph Companies.

		s.	*d.*
Rate per word to	Great Britain - -	8	10
,,	Accra - - -	0	10
,,	Sierra Leone - -	2	6
,,	Bathurst - -	4	2
,,	Bahia and Rio Janeiro -	11	10

West African telegraphic connexion was established at the cost of the Imperial Treasury; as a contribution in aid of such, Lagos pays annually 1,000*l.*, to continue for 20 years.

Remarks.

The event of the year was the Queen's Jubilee, which was most loyally and enthusiastically celebrated in the Colony.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

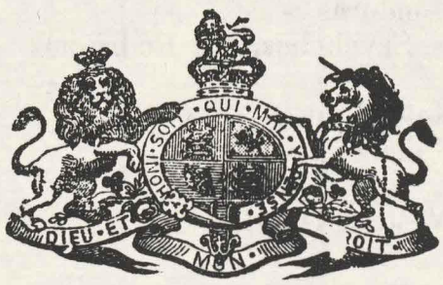
No. 57.

MALTA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 23.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1889.



LONDON:
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BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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1889.

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NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
7	Gibraltar	1887
8	Gold Coast (Governor's visit to the Eastern Districts)	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,

No. 57.

MALTA.

Governor Sir H. D'O. TORRENS to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, June 7, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Malta Blue Book for 1888, together with Count Strickland's report on the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. TORRENS,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office,
June 7, 1889.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book for 1888 :—

Revenue.

—	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1885 - - -	135,907	77,404	213,311
1886 - -	142,069	81,684	223,753
1887 - - -	145,786	73,399	219,185
	423,762	232,487	656,249
Average of three years	141,254	77,496	218,750
Received in 1888 -	156,600	83,546	240,146
Increase in 1888 -	15,346	6,050	21,396

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MALTA.

The following table compares the actual revenue for 1888 with that of 1887 :—

—	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	145,786	73,399	219,185
1888 - - -	156,600	83,546	240,146
Increase -	10,814	10,147	20,961

The following table compares the revenue in 1888 with the revenue as estimated :—

—	Estimate.	Actual Revenue.	Excess.	Deficit.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - -	141,254 0 0	156,600 0 5	15,346 0 5	—
Quarantine dues - - -	—	562 9 8	562 9 8	—
Land revenue - - - -	15,120 0 0	14,957 5 9	—	162 14 3
Rents, exclusive of land - -	23,250 0 0	22,944 7 1	—	305 12 11
Licenses - - - - -	3,040 0 0	3,915 5 0	875 5 0	—
Postage - - - - -	8,360 0 0	9,710 10 0	1,350 10 0	—
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - - -	5,344 0 0	5,727 4 9	383 4 9	—
Fees of office - - - -	2,321 0 0	2,596 0 10	275 0 10	—
Reimbursements in aid of expenses -	4,226 0 0	3,462 3 0	—	763 17 0
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	2,185 0 0	2,263 11 11	78 11 11	—
Interest - - - - -	8,580 0 0	9,163 3 2	583 3 2	—
Water dues - - - -	2,600 0 0	4,380 13 10	1,780 13 10	—
Special receipts - - - -	3,800 0 0	3,862 18 1	62 18 1	—
Total - - -	220,080 0 0	240,145 13 6	21,297 17 8	1,232 4 2
	—	—	1,232 4 2	—
Actual excess - -	—	—	20,065 13 6	—

The following table compares the revenue received in 1888 with that received in 1887 :—

——	Amount collected in 1887.	Amount collected in 1888.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	145,786 14 0	156,600 0 5	10,813 6 5	—
Quarantine dues	247 11 4¼	562 9 8	314 18 3¾	—
Land revenue	14,593 11 7¼	14,957 5 9	363 14 1¾	—
Rent, exclusive of land	23,257 16 9	22,944 7 1	—	313 9 8
Licenses	3,096 8 4	3,915 5 0	818 16 8	—
Postage	8,457 15 4	9,710 10 0	1,252 14 8	—
Fines, forfeitures, &c.	5,607 3 1¼	5,727 4 9	120 1 7¾	—
Fees of office	2,415 5 1	2,596 0 10	180 15 9	—
Reimbursements in aid of expenses	3,132 19 6½	3,462 3 0	329 3 5½	—
Miscellaneous receipts	2,112 8 7	2,263 11 11	151 3 4	—
Interest	2,600 14 7	9,163 3 2	6,562 8 7	—
Water dues	4,147 13 3	4,380 13 10	233 0 7	—
Special receipts	3,728 18 10¾	3,862 18 1	133 19 2¼	—
Total	219,185 0 5	240,145 13 6	21,274 2 9	313 9 8
	—	—	313 9 8	—
Actual increase	—	—	20,960 13 1	—

Expenditure.

——	Salaries and Allowances.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£	£	£
1885	87,712	138,633	226,345
1886	90,473	180,934	271,407
1887	88,625	*150,562	239,187
	266,810	470,129	736,939
Average	88,937	156,710	245,646
1888	90,477	121,836	212,313
Increase	1,540	—	—
Decrease	—	34,874	33,333

* Including 5,362*l.* advanced from the Treasury in 1887, but not brought to account till 1888.

MALTA.

The following table compares the actual expenditure for 1888 with that of 1887 :—

	Salaries and Allowances.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	88,625	*150,562	239,187
1888 - - -	90,477	121,836	212,313
Increase - -	1,852	—	—
Decrease - -	—	28,726	26,874

* Including 5,362*l.* advanced from the Treasury in 1887, but not brought to account till 1888.

The following table compares the actual expenditure in 1888 with the estimate of expenditure :—

	Estimate.	Actual Expenditure.	Excess.	Saving.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Establishments - - - -	94,265 1 9	90,477 1 8	—	3,788 0 1
Exclusive of establishments - -	133,147 19 4	121,836 0 3½	—	11,311 19 0½
Total - - -	227,413 1 1	212,313 1 11½	—	15,099 19 1½

The following is a comparison of the expenditure for 1888 with the expenditure for 1887 :—

	Expenditure in 1887.	Expenditure in 1888.	Increase.	Decrease.
Establishments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil - - - - -	10,312 4 0	11,157 17 2	845 13 2	—
Revenue - - - - -	8,198 0 2	8,319 3 5	121 3 3	—
Legislative - - - -	200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—
Judicial - - - - -	9,637 3 11	9,680 16 2	43 12 3	—
Police - - - - -	20,707 5 2	20,503 13 1	—	203 12 1
Prisons - - - - -	1,251 6 1	1,341 11 2	90 5 1	—
Ecclesiastical - - - -	676 15 0	676 15 0	—	—
Educational - - - -	14,489 2 10	15,065 5 2	576 2 4	—
Charitable - - - -	9,928 12 9	10,148 13 10	220 1 1	—
Clerical establishment - - -	10,723 18 4	10,906 16 10	182 18 6	—
Messengers' do. - - -	2,350 15 10	2,326 9 10	—	24 6 0
Crown Agents - - - -	150 0 0	150 0 0	—	—
Total - - -	88,625 4 1	90,477 1 8	2,079 15 8	227 18 1

Exclusive of Establishments.	Expenditure in 1887. £ s. d.	Expenditure in 1888. £ s. d.	Increase. £ s. d.	Decrease. £ s. d.
Civil	571 15 3	452 15 11	—	118 19 4
Revenue	7,327 10 11	5,831 10 11½	—	1,495 19 11½
Legislative	270 16 7	701 2 5	430 5 10	—
Judicial	2,427 17 8	2,449 0 7	21 2 11	—
Police	1,481 19 8	1,032 7 0	—	449 12 8
Prisons	1,939 16 1	1,746 9 4	—	193 6 9
Ecclesiastical	590 1 4	577 12 1	—	12 9 3
Educational	1,588 3 3	1,693 14 8	105 11 5	—
Charitable	23,285 5 5	23,677 3 6	391 18 1	—
Pensions	14,263 10 10	14,539 15 4	276 4 6	—
Works and buildings	39,531 2 0½	27,662 9 2	—	11,868 12 10½
Roads, streets, &c.	19,275 4 2¼	14,668 17 3	—	4,606 6 11¼
Rent	1,234 2 11	1,256 19 4	22 16 5	—
Interest	1,887 18 8	1,830 10 6	—	57 8 2
Burthen on property	1,753 9 0	1,734 6 2	—	19 2 10
Drawbacks, &c.	3,132 19 0	3,109 2 3½	—	23 16 8½
Stationery	1,000 19 4	994 10 9	—	6 8 7
Transport	1,828 18 3	2,027 18 7	199 0 4	—
Military contribution	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous services	*16,808 13 5¾	10,849 14 5½	—	5,958 19 0¼
Total	145,200 3 10½	121,836 0 3½	1,446 19 6	24,811 3 1
Grand Total	233,825 7 11½	212,313 1 11½	3,526 15 2	25,039 1 2

* 13,025*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* of which incurred in connexion with the epidemic of cholera.

Legislation.

The first session of the new Council, elected under the Letters Patent of 21st December 1887, commenced on 31st October 1888, and was closed on 26th June 1889.

During the session the following Ordinances were passed:—

Ordinances.

No. I.

To prevent the landing of stowaways in Malta.

No. II.

To provide for the preservation of copies of books printed in these islands, and for the registration thereof.

MALTA.

No. III.

To amend Ordinance No. II. of 1884.

No. IV.

To amend the Criminal Laws.

No. V.

To amend Ordinance No. IX. of 1885.

No. VI.

To exempt the Cathedral Church of Gozo from the obligation of selling certain property.

No. VII.

For applying a sum not exceeding 17,278*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* to the service of the year 1887.

No. VIII.

For applying a sum not exceeding 188,565*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* to the service of the year 1888.

No. IX.

To make some provisions respecting the sale of articles of food and drink.

No. X.

To invest in the Public Funds of Great Britain or in Government Securities of British India, or of any one or more of the Colonies of Great Britain, any amount of money existing in the Government Treasury beyond 10,000*l.*, and to make other provisions respecting such investments and respecting those effected prior to this Ordinance.

No. XI

To amend Ordinance No. VII. of 1886.

No. XII.

To exempt the congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor from the obligation of selling certain property.

No. XIII.

To amend the law respecting the duty on licences for retailing wine, beer, or spirituous liquors.

No. XIV.

To permit the burial of the corpse of a certain person in the new parish church of "San Giuseppe" at Misida.

No. XV.

To grant in some cases an appeal from decisions of the Courts of Judicial Police, and of the Courts of Syndics of the country districts of the island of Malta, sitting as courts of Criminal Judicature.

No. XVI.

To amend the Criminal Laws.

No. XVII.

To prevent some doubts in cases of offences punishable in virtue of certain laws.

The second session commenced on 31st October 1888, and closed on 25th February 1889.

Ordinances were passed during the second session. Only one Ordinance was passed before 31st December 1888, namely :—

No. XVIII.

To prevent mole stations caused by dogs or other animals, and to amend Article 17 of the Police Laws.

Civil Establishment.

The changes in offices during the year were the following :—

Professor G. C. Schinas, Ph.D., C.E., has been appointed Superintendent of Public Works, instead of Mr. E. L. Galizia, C.E.; Capt. C. La Primaudaye, R.N., Superintendent of the Ports, instead of Capt. G. L. Carr, R.N.; Dr. P. Trendo Azopardi appointed magistrate of police in lieu of Dr. G. Micallef, deceased; Dr. Zaccaria Roncali appointed Advocate for the Poor, vice Dr. P. Trendo Azopardi; Dr. Salvatore Trapani appointed a magistrate, in addition to the number of magistrates borne on the establishment of last year; Mr. Salvatore Stivala, formerly Inspector of Police, appointed Assistant Superintendent of Police; Mr. R. H. Domenichetti, B.A., appointed Professor of English Literature in the University; the Rev. F. Mifsud appointed chaplain in the Lunatic Asylum in the place of the Rev. M. Cortis, D.D.; and Mr. M. R. Caruana appointed Superintendent, of Police, vice Capt. R. Casolani, R.M.F.A., deceased.

Population.

The population of the islands was estimated at 160,679 on the 31st December 1887.

The number of births registered in 1888 was 6,304; the total number of deaths in 1888 was 4,560; thus the natural increase

MALTA.

during 1888 as represented by the excess of births over deaths was 1,744. The population may therefore be estimated at 162,423 on the 31st December 1888.

The return of births and deaths was as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Births - - - -	3,363	2,941	6,304
Deaths - - - -	2,319	2,241	4,560
Excess in births - -	1,044	700	1,744

Savings Bank.

6. The amount of deposits in the savings bank was as follows :—

	1888.	Depositors.	1887.	Depositors.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
In Malta - -	367,061 18 10¼	4,690	360,063 11 4¾	4,647
In Gozo - -	30,488 10 9	507	28,968 6 7	486
Total -	397,550 9 7¼	5,197	389,031 17 11¾	5,133
Interest accrued due during 1888 credited to capital -	5,418 14 4	—	—	—
Grand Total -	402,969 3 11¼	—	—	—

showing an increase of 8,518*l.* 11*s.* 7½*d.*

Savings Bank.—Profit and Loss Account.

DR	£ s. d.	CR.	£ s. d.
Establishment expenses :—		By Depositors' account :—	
To Salaries for 1888 - -	307 13 4	„ Recovered interests - -	73 2 11
„ Sundry office expenses -	156 3 7½	„ Books account - -	7 13 0
„ Rent account - -	108 0 0	„ Dividends from Consols and interest from Monte -	10,734 16 3
„ Interest paid and due for 1888 - - - -	5,714 1 4		
	6,285 18 3½		
Balance Profit - - -	4,529 13 10½		
	10,815 12 2		10,815 12 2

Balance Sheet of the Savings Bank on 31st December 1888.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Treasury banking account	43,153	4	3¾	Depositors' account	402,969	3	11¼
Monte di Pietà	54,150	0	0	Profit and loss	4,529	13	10½
Cash account	195	13	6	Malta Branch (Gozo) account	195	13	6
Investments account	310,000	0	0				
Gozo Branch (Malta) account current	195	13	6				
	407,694	11	3¾		407,694	11	3¾

Balance Sheet of the Monte di Pietà on 31st December 1888.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Landed property account	61,628	12	2	Stock account	41,628	12	2
Cash account	187	2	1¾	Loans account	7,551	13	11½
Pawning transactions	42,428	13	3¾	Savings bank account	54,150	0	0
Treasury banking account	1,892	15	9¼	Surplus on sales of pawns	1,934	19	1¾
Gozo Branch (Malta)	38	17	3½	Malta Branch (Gozo) account	38	17	3½
				Profit and loss	871	18	1½
	106,176	0	8¼		106,176	0	8¼

Education.

The following is a list of the Government educational establishments:—

	No. of Scholars.	
	1888.	1887.
The University, attended by	105	45
The Lyceum, attended by	404	367
Two Secondary Schools, attended by	157	127
Thirty-eight Primary Schools, attended by	9,157	8,141
Eight Infant Schools, attended by	880	1,016
Total	10,703	9,696

The expenditure of the educational establishments amounted to 17,036*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*, and the fees paid by the scholars for attendance in the University and Lyceum to 193*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*

MALTA.

Imports and Exports.

	£		£	
The following is the value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	875,853	in 1888, against	767,521	in 1887.
Value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same vessels - -	25,887,270	against	9,498,131	„
	26,763,123		10,265,652	
viz.:—				
From the U. Kingdom -	135,085	„	121,241	„
From the British Colonies	773,923	„	690,583	„
From H.M.'s ships in port	735	„	738	„
From foreign countries -	25,853,380	„	9,453,090	„
	26,763,123		10,265,652	„

showing an increase of 16,497,471*l.*

	£		£	
The value of exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port - -	70,874	in 1888, against	28,787	in 1887.
Value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same vessels -	25,884,474	against	9,507,266	„
	25,955,348		9,536,053	
viz.:—				
To the United Kingdom	5,054,172	„	2,376,635	„
„ British Colonies -	9,679,717	„	2,832,885	„
„ H.M.'s ships -	5,078	„	4,565	„
„ foreign countries -	11,216,381	„	4,321,968	„
	25,955,348		9,536,053	

showing an increase of 16,419,295*l.*

Shipping.

The shipping movements in the port during the last three years are shown in the following return :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1885 - - -	4,424	5,140,817	1,381	128,671
1886 - - -	3,605	4,349,015	1,257	97,405
1887 - - -	2,858	3,310,039	1,046	93,987
	10,887	12,799,871	3,684	320,063
Average - -	3,629	4,266,624	1,228	106,688
1888 - -	4,336	5,143,248	1,557	131,738
Increase -	707	876,624	329	25,050

The following table compares the actual arrivals in 1888 with those in 1887 :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1887 - - - -	2,858	3,310,039	1,046	93,987
1888 - - - -	4,336	5,143,248	1,557	131,738
Increase - -	1,478	1,833,209	511	37,751

Criminal Statistics.

The following is a statement of offences punishable under local laws, showing the number of accusations and of persons brought before the courts by the police in 1888 :—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
Crimes against public tranquillity - -	111	128	12	116
„ affecting public credit - -	3	3	—	3
„ „ the good order of families	43	51	13	38
„ against the person - - -	857	1,120	134	986
„ „ property - - -	309	379	67	312
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	2,104	3,354	367	2,987
Against the person - - - -	220	322	64	258
„ property - - - -	84	154	8	146

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	1,134	1,713	55	1,658
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - -	2,685	4,077	236	3,841
Totals - -	7,550	11,301*	956	10,345

*viz. :—

Maltese - - -	11,162	in 1888,	against	10,705	in 1887.
English - - -	132	„	„	118	„
Foreigners - -	7	„	„	22	„
	11,301	„	„	10,845	„

The number of persons committed to prison in 1888 was as follows :—

Men - - - - -	5,561
Women - - - - -	646
Boys - - - - -	1,678
Girls - - - - -	39
	7,924

General Remarks.

In 1888 the customs receipts, which are the main source of the revenue of Malta, amounted to 156,000*l.* This, compared with 1887, shows an increase of 10,814*l.*

The actual receipts of 1888 have exceeded the forecast of the estimate by 15,346*l.*, and they were 33,934*l.* above the average receipts of the preceding 10 years.

This increase is principally due to a greater importation of wine, beer, and spirits, and to a larger amount collected for tonnage dues.

The shipping movements of the ports during the year showed an increase of 1,478 steam vessels and an increase of 511 sailing vessels, and also an increase in the tonnage of both steam and sail of 1,833,209 tons and 37,751 tons respectively.

As a coaling station Malta still holds its pre-eminence. The importation and re-exportation of coals amounted during the year to 589,071 tons, which are handled by local labour.

The customs receipts for 1888 gave a most favourable indication of the increasing prosperity of the island.

Large sums have been voted by the Council during the past year for public works which are in course of construction. The waterworks are being extended throughout the island as opportunities offer.

Several departments of the administration are being reorganised, and the waterworks department has been amalgamated with that of the public works.

The system of keeping the public accounts has been re-arranged, so that the books of the Treasury and other departments are being kept by double entry.

The recommendations made early in the year by a Royal Commission for the determination of the boundaries of single constituencies in accordance with clause XLII. of the principal Letters Patent of 12th December 1887 were finally embodied in the additional Letters Patent of 9th March 1888.

The interest which has been taken in public questions by the leading members of the community has led to the appointment by his Excellency the Governor of the following commissions and committees :—

Committee to revise the regulations of the pilot service.
Commission to report on proposals for encouraging commerce and agriculture.
Committee to report on the causes and remedies of disease in orange and other trees.
Committee on the classification and pay of the clerical establishment.
Committee on the number, duties, and remuneration of district medical officers.
Commission to propose legislation for checking abuses of the liberty of the press.
Commission on the preservation of the tapestry of St. John's Church.
Committee to consider the question of constituting the university as an autonomous institution.

Of the important Ordinances which have already been mentioned in this report, the legislation for granting an appeal from the decisions of the inferior courts provides redress for any doubt which might be entertained as to the administration of justice in the police courts, and thus eliminates the principal cause of misunderstandings among different classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

Towards the end of the year the raising of the Royal Malta Militia was sanctioned by the Commander-in-Chief, and the selection and training of the officers was inaugurated under brilliant auspices.

The year 1888 has been for Malta a period of unprecedented material prosperity and social development, and one during which much energy and progress have been evinced among all classes, who would appear more and more to appreciate their privileges

MALTA.

whilst at the same time accepting their responsibilities, as fellow subjects of the British Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. STRICKLAND, DELLA CATENA,
Acting Chief Secretary to
Government.

To His Excellency
Sir Henry D'Oyley Torrens, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Malta,
&c. &c. &c.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 60.

N A T A L.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 10.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1889.



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No.	Colony.	Year.
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13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,

No. 60.

NATAL.

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Pietermaritzburg, Natal,
MY LORD, June 4, 1889.

WITH reference to my Despatch forwarding the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1888, I have the honour to submit a report upon it, which has been prepared by the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the NATAL BLUE BOOK for 1888.

1. It is satisfactory to notice, in looking at the financial and trade returns of Natal for the past year, that the Colony's advance has been marked, and has more than justified the hopeful predictions made a year ago. That Natal owes much to her geographical position in regard to the Orange Free State and South African Republic is no doubt true, but it is equally true that a wise customs policy and an energetic extension of her railway system have enabled Natal to draw to herself much trade with the interior States which would have passed through other channels but for her low rates of duty and the facilities she possesses for conveyance from the port to the borders of the inland States.

2. The existence of extensive and payable gold fields in the South African Republic is now an established fact, while in Zululand, Swaziland, and in Natal itself, auriferous reefs have been discovered, of the payable nature of which there is but little doubt. The development and profitable working of the gold fields of South Africa have been retarded in no small degree by the want of capital, by inexperience in the management and opening up of the mines, and by other difficulties common to new industries, but the fact that rough gold to the value of about a million sterling was exported from Natal and the Cape Colony during 1888, is sufficient evidence of the importance of these fields.

o 59346. Wt. 18437.

NATAL.

3. For convenience of reference the following statement is given of the revenue, expenditure, and trade of the Colony for the past 20 years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Value of		
			Imports.	Exports.	Customs Revenue.
	£	£	£	£	£
1869 -	114,810	117,317	380,331	363,262	38,146
1870 -	126,293	117,009	429,527	382,979	47,090
1871 -	125,628	118,657	472,444	562,109	47,022
1872 -	180,498	132,978	825,252	622,797	81,915
1873 -	208,086	182,224	1,011,465	651,028	96,003
1874 -	247,259	254,402	1,121,948	770,034	109,725
1875 -	260,271	307,025	1,208,838	835,643	114,777
1876 -	265,551	261,933	1,022,890	657,390	97,118
1877 -	272,473	283,823	1,167,402	689,817	106,287
1878 -	369,383	434,632	1,719,562	694,192	162,953
1879 -	473,478	491,883	2,176,356	583,711	228,558
1880 -	582,715	494,436	2,336,584	890,874	250,783
1881 -	612,961	524,444	1,912,856	768,038	201,298
1882 -	657,737	659,031*	2,213,538	738,809	221,045
1883 -	620,496	697,265*	1,751,107	831,747	165,007
1884 -	610,936	707,528*	1,675,850	957,918	179,908
1885 -	669,831	774,159*	1,518,557	877,483	163,839
1886 -	600,177	717,414*	1,331,115	960,290	140,402
1887 -	816,816	689,573*	2,263,920	1,056,959	231,412
1888 -	990,614	781,326*	2,890,468	1,417,871	290,089

Revenue.

4. The total revenue proper for 1888 was 990,614*l.*, as compared with 816,816*l.* for the preceding year, an increase of nearly a fifth. The largest items of revenue were railways 349,184*l.* as compared with 259,364*l.* for 1887, and Customs 290,089*l.* as compared with 231,412*l.* for 1887. Next comes native hut tax with 74,320*l.* as against 73,274*l.* for 1887. Mail service and telegraphs contributed 38,092*l.*, and 16,722*l.* respectively, as against 31,072*l.* and 10,403*l.* for the previous year. Stamps, licenses and dues gave 34,115*l.* as compared with 31,151*l.* for 1887. Land sales showed an apparent falling off, 26,550*l.*, as against 36,767*l.* for 1887, but the large revenue for 1887 was mainly due to the recovery by legal process of arrear payments, while as a matter of fact the

* The figures given do not include expenditure from loan funds.

actual revenue under this head for 1888 exceeded the estimated revenue by 1,550*l.* Steam tug, port and harbour, and wharf dues gave substantial advances upon the receipts for 1887, the natural consequence of increased trade. Excise yielded 19,381*l.* as against 17,384*l.* for 1887. Of the remaining items of revenue, nearly all show satisfactory increases over the receipts for the preceding year.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure of the Colony (exclusive of that from loan funds) was 781,326*l.*, and 689,573*l.* for 1888 and 1887 respectively. Under the head of railways we find an increased expenditure of 62,582*l.* (247,991*l.* as against 185,409*l.* for 1887), but this is satisfactorily accounted for by the circumstance that increased traffic, and the opening of new lines involved considerable additions to the working expenses. In the Public Works Department the expenditure was 43,310*l.* as compared with 33,861*l.* for 1887, the increase being chiefly due to larger expenditure on the upkeep of the main roads of the Colony. Education showed an increase of 5,998*l.* over the expenditure for the previous year, the excess being caused mainly by increased payments for grants in aid. A new department, that of the Commissioner of Mines, was established in 1888. An addition to the strength of the Natal Mounted Police involved an expenditure of about 2,000*l.* over that for the previous year under Colonial defence. No other heads of service call for special notice.

6. The loan expenditure for 1888 was made up as follows:--

	£
Sundays River and further railway extension - - - -	201,551
Sundry railway expenditure - -	19,783
Harbour works - - -	68,536
Public works - - - -	32,014
Cost of conversion of loans, Laws 1, 1886, and 21, 1887 - - -	146
Refund to general revenue under Law 49, 1887 - - - -	144,452
	466,482

The last-named item is a refund of advances from general revenue for railway and harbour construction purposes. Among the public works the cost of which has been charged on the loan funds are new Legislative Council buildings, armament and fortification of the port, completion of Durban Gaol, a bridge over the River Umkomanzi, railway extension surveys, additional telegraph lines, and additions to Government House, Pietermaritzburg. The expenditure on railways amounted to 221,334*l.*

NATAL.

Shipping and Trade.

The number and tonnage of vessels which arrived at Port Natal during 1888 were as follows :—

	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
British.				
Sailing - - - -	90	21,035		
Steam - - - -	248	301,612		
			338	322,647
Foreign.				
Sailing - - - -	108	38,538		
Steam - - - -	1	1,052		
			109	39,590
Total - - -	—	—	447	362,237

This represents an increase of 22 per cent. in ships, and 54 per cent. in tonnage on the returns for 1887, and is indicative of the augmented trade in 1888. The number of steam vessels trading to Port Natal continues to increase, and that of sailing vessels to diminish.

8. The total value of imports in 1888 was 2,890,468*l.*, being an increase of 28 per cent. on the value of imports in 1887. It may also be remarked that the total import value of 1887 was 70 per cent. in excess of that for 1886. This continued increase of importation is the result of the revival of trade which set in at the end of 1886, and which has since been maintained. The transit trade, which represents certain goods imported at nominal rates of duty for conveyance overland, beyond the borders of the Colony showed also in 1888 an increase of 31 per cent. over the year 1887. The goods coming under the transit dues system are—Spirits, tea, tobacco, and wine; and, as showing the advantage taken by the inland States of the low transit rate, the following return of goods removed for conveyance beyond the borders during 1888 is of interest :—

Description.	Quantity.	Transit rate.
Spirits, gin - - - -	44,659 gallons	3*d.* per gallon.
„ other sorts - - -	63,293 „	6*d.* „
Tea - - - -	275,233 lbs.	1*d.* per lb.
Tobacco, manufactured - -	11,661 „	6*d.* „
Cigars - - - -	9,890 „	6*d.* „
Wine, in bottle - - -	17,972 gallons	6*d.* per gallon.
„ in wood - - -	10,823 „	6*d.* „

The total customs duty on the above amounted to 1,546*l.* The duty at the ordinary tariff would have amounted to about 63,000*l.*

9. The total value of exports by sea for 1888, excluding rough gold, was 1,026,228*l.*, 12·35 per cent. in excess of 1887; but, including rough gold, the value was 1,417,871*l.*, 34·15 per cent. over the export value of 1887. The most important item of export for the year was wool, 28,982,247 lbs., as against 22,250,834 lbs. for 1887, an increase of 24 per cent. over the export for 1887, and it should be remarked that this export is based largely on the trade in imported goods with interior States. The term "Colonial produce" really means South African produce, it being impossible to determine the exact locality of production of the wool, hides, or skins brought for exportation. Sugar, the other item of importance under exports, showed a decrease of 37 per cent. as compared with 1887, but this may be accounted for by the local demand for the Transvaal trade. There is no export duty on produce shipped from Natal, but a wharfage charge is imposed of 1*s.* per bale on wool, and ½ per cent. on the value of all other produce exported. The following are the values of the chief exports by sea for the years 1888 and 1887.

	1888.	1887.
	£	£
Wool	745,749	601,171
Angora hair	21,610	12,664
Hides, ox and cow	58,254	59,100
Skins, calf, sheep and goat	11,314	8,302
Sugar, unrefined	71,912	114,079
Spirits, rum	1,912	1,561
Maize	12,443	13,925
Arrowroot	3,784	4,615
Ivory	2,183	1,735
Gold, rough	391,643	143,551

Gold.

10. For the purpose of comparison a return is given of the value of the rough gold exported from Natal and the Cape Colony during the last four years :—

From	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Natal	52,222	113,166	143,551	391,643	700,582
Cape Colony	17,321	23,914	92,936	519,885	654,056
Total exported	69,543	137,080	236,489	911,528	1,354,638

NATAL.

Railways.

11. The number of miles of railway open in Natal on the 31st December 1888 was 233½. The lines, which are single ones of 3 ft. 6 in. gauge, are all the property of the Colonial Government. Elands Laagte, the furthest point to which the railway is open on the main line, is 205 miles from Durban, and 16 miles from Ladysmith, the present general terminus for goods. The section to Biggarsberg Summit, about 26 miles from Elands Laagte, is expected to be open for traffic in July next, and the next section, about 37 miles, to Newcastle will probably be completed by the end of 1889. The extension from Newcastle to Coldstream on the Transvaal border, about 30 miles, will probably be open for traffic by the middle of 1890. The extension of the railway from Ladysmith to the border of the Free State at Van Reenen's Pass in the Drakensberg is about to be commenced, and will be proceeded with as rapidly as possible.

The revenue of the Railway Department for 1888 showed, after deducting working expenses, a contribution of interest at the rate of 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per cent. on the capital expenditure as against 3*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* per cent. in 1887.

Harbour Works.

12. The works detailed in the last Report on the Natal Blue Book continue to make satisfactory progress under the direction of the Natal Harbour Board. During the year 1888 233 vessels were brought into port, 10 of that number drawing over 16 feet.

The average depth of water on the bar at the entrance to the harbour is given for each of the last seven years :—

	Ft.	In.
1882 - - - - -	6	1
1883 - - - - -	6	1½
1884 - - - - -	7	2
1885 - - - - -	8	4
1886 - - - - -	8	3¾
1887 - - - - -	10	7
1888 - - - - -	11	6¾

Public Debt.

13. The public debt of the Colony amounted, at the end of 1888, to 4,535,126*l.*, having been increased during the year by 500,000*l.* raised for railway extension and other purposes. By Law 12, 1888, a further loan of a million and a half has been authorised for railway extension and other public works, but the loan has not as yet been raised.

Population.

14. The returns published in the Blue Book for the year show the population at the end of 1888 to have been as follows :—

Whites.

Males - - -	19,476	
Females - - -	16,457	
		35,933

Coolies.

Males - - -	22,059	
Females - - -	13,211	
		35,270

Natives.

Males - - -	185,685	
Females - - -	224,473	
		410,158
Total		481,361

(Signed) C. BIRD,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Natal, 1st June 1889.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

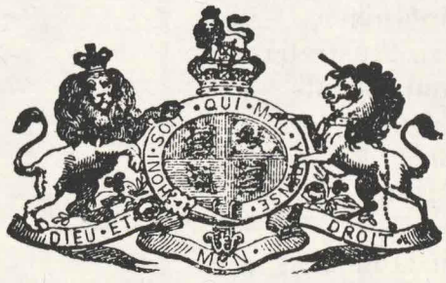
No. 46.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1887.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 14 [C.—5249—11.]).

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, *March* 1889.



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1889.

[C.—5620·—4.] *Price* ½*d.*

NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following reports, among others, relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
6	Tobago	1887
7	Gibraltar	,,
8	Gold Coast (Governor's visit to the Eastern Districts).	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Strait Settlementss	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports 1886 and 1887).	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Island	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1887
41	Gambia	,,
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	1888
45	British New Guinea	,,

No. 46.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Sir TERENCE O'BRIEN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, St. John's, Newfoundland,
January 22, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith in duplicate the annual Blue Book returns of this Colony, together with the report thereon by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Having only arrived in the Island on the 18th instant, I am manifestly incapable of offering any remarks on these documents.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. O'BRIEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
St. John's, Newfoundland,
January 16, 1889.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1887, to be forwarded for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

The returns do not, unfortunately, exhibit any increase in the staple productions of the Colony, nor, as a consequence, any amelioration of the adverse conditions to which the Colony has been subjected since 1884. Destitution was prevalent in the early part of the year to a large extent in the northern districts, and it will be noticed that $184,000 were spent in relief works, besides $212,285 on the Placentia Railway, the labour on which was largely given to relieve distress.

Trade.

The imports, which in 1884 had been $8,075,792, had declined through 1885 and 1886 to $5,397,408 in 1887, a decrease of $622,628 on the importations of 1886. Manufactured goods from Britain showed the largest decline ($320,000), though molasses and spirits were also considerably short. The staple imports of flour and pork were but little affected.

In value of exports there was an increase of $313,779 over 1886 (5,176,730 against $4,862,951), resulting almost exclusively.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

from the enhanced value of codfish, 913,145 quintals in 1887 being priced at $3,761,574 and 1,088,004 quintals in 1886 at $3,431,987. The lobster fishery exhibits continued expansion, the export of 1887 2,097,080 lbs., value $209,708, being the largest recorded. The tendency in this industry is to overfish to exhaustion, and the Government obtained legislation in 1888 forbidding capture of lobsters less than 10½ inches and fixing a close time between August 31st and February 1st. The export of cod oil was somewhat in excess of that of 1886, but the increase was more than counterbalanced by lower prices. The export of copper and copper ore was larger than in 1886 by 584 tons (7,611 tons in 1887, 7,027 tons in 1886), but lower prices made the value less by $78,756; but the value of the mining industry to the Colony has been considerably increased by the processes of conversion of the ore into pure copper being carried out at the mines. 120 tons of ingots of copper were exported in 1887, valued at $408 per ton.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Customs revenue of 1887 was collected under an increased tariff, but was only $173,000 in excess of that of 1886 ($1,083,783, 1887; $910,735, 1886), the gross revenue for the year, exclusive of loans, being $1,185,300. The large expenditure for relief works in the early part of the year made it necessary to obtain money on the credit of the Colony, and loans to the extent of $719,554 were authorised by the Legislature. A sum of $87,300 was also appropriated to the general purposes of the Colony from the fishery award. The total expenditure for the year was $1,738,201, the principal items being $212,285 on account of the Placentia Railway, $184,745 for relief works, $182,266 for relief of permanent and casual poor, $145,053 for steam communication, $133,184 for roads, and $123,617 for education. The public debt at the end of 1887 was $3,005,040.

Savings Bank.

As a hopeful sign of a revival in the business of the Colony, it is satisfactory to note a considerable increase in the number of depositors and amount of deposits in the savings bank. The depositors in 1887 were 4,516, an increase of 581 over 3,935 for 1886, and amount of deposits $1,860,968, an increase of $111,355 over $1,749,613 for 1886. In 1887 $100,631 were taken from the sinking fund created from the reserve (profits) of the bank and applied to the liquidation of that amount of public debt, leaving $34,500 still to the credit of sinking fund.

Banks.

The Union Bank, with a capital of $456,000, has a reserve of $280,000, and paid in dividend and bonus 15 per cent. for its last complete year. Notes in circulation, 31st May 1888, $548,142.

The Commercial Bank, with a capital of $306,000, has a reserve of $125,000 and paid a dividend of 10 per cent. Notes in circulation $393,376.

Bank Fishery.

The bank fishery was prosecuted to a much larger extent than in 1886 and was attended with a large measure of success, and the fish being well-cured, shipments found ready sale at remunerative rates. It is hoped that in the future the extension of this branch of the fishery will go far towards counterbalancing the evident decline in the shore fishery. There were 61 vessels, with a tonnage of 2,350 tons, built in the Colony in 1887, most of which were fitted out for the bank fishery.

It is estimated that about 300 vessels, with about 4,000 men, were engaged in this fishery in 1887.

Agriculture.

On this branch of industry I have nothing further to remark than that the application of the law for the encouragement of agriculture by granting a bonus for clearing land has resulted in a considerably increased acreage being prepared for cultivation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. FENELON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir F. B. T. Carter, K.C.M.G.,
Administrator of the Government.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 45.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER FOR 1888.

(To 31st October.)

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 38.]

A Map will be found at page 70.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
March 1889.

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1889.

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MAP.

Sketch of the Mai Cussa and Wasu Cussa Rivers, by Mr. Strode Hall.

No. 45.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

REPORT.

I now make my third and last annual statement of receipts and expenditure on account of the Protected Territory of British New Guinea, from the 1st December 1887 to the 31st of October 1888. Sovereignty was proclaimed at Port Moresby by Dr. MacGregor, the present Administrator, on the 4th of September. A subsequent proclamation in the Queensland Government "Gazette" of the 11th September brought the "British New Guinea Act of Queensland" into operation, and the agreement entered into between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of Queensland is now made effective.

Special Commissioner.

During the 11 months which this report covers it has been necessary for me to visit Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne more than once in connexion with the collection of contributions, the publication of my reports, and the final arrangements consequent on the assumption of sovereignty. I have also visited all the different points of any importance from the western to the eastern extremity of the Protected Territory, and I am happy to be able to say that during the period here referred to, and since my last report, there has not been a single instance of any serious outrage by the natives against white men, or of white men against the natives. There have been some intertribal disturbances, and cases of what I suppose might be termed native murders have come to my knowledge, but they have been less frequent than formerly, and they have not been such as to call for interference on the part of the protecting authorities. The only difficulty of any importance connected with white men took place on the occasion of Mr. Cameron's visit to the San Joseph River. This arose simply from a misunderstanding, and from the fact that there was no competent interpreter with the party. It resulted in a somewhat precipitate retreat, and in the abandonment of the trade and provisions, but a portion of these was afterwards brought down to the coast by the natives. There has been no period during the last ten years when the relations of the natives to the white men and of the white men to the natives have been on a more friendly or a more satisfactory footing.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA

Mr. Deputy Commisioner Milman, as hitherto, has been in charge of the Western Division.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Romilly has been in charge of the Central Division, and Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave has been in charge of the Eastern Division.

Early in the year, in consequence of representations made to me by Mr. Romilly as to some discontent and disturbances among the natives of the Central Division, I visited Port Moresby. I then increased the number of water police by obtaining six acclimatised South Sea Islanders from Mackay, and removed Mr. Robert Hunter from Port Moresby to replace Mr. Frank Lawes, who had been granted three months' leave of absence after a residence at Samarai of 12 months. Mr. George Hunter continued to occupy the Government Station at Rigo, with the supervision of the valley of the Kemp Welch.

Mr. E. G. Edelfelt, having been removed from Motu-Motu to Port Moresby, was afterwards sent to Samarai to succeed Mr. Robert Hunter.

Western Division.

Mr. Milman has exercised a general supervision from Thursday Island.

In reference to this division, and bearing in mind that it is intersected by several navigable rivers, I must once more state, what I have previously urged, that its great requirement at the present time is a light-draught steamer capable of navigating the shoals on the coast and the inland waters of the Fly, which is the great natural highway to the interior of British New Guinea.

I have been in correspondence with Messrs. Yarrow, of Poplar, and have ascertained that a stern-wheel steamer drawing two feet and capable of carrying deck cargo could be built for about 5,000*l*. Such a vessel could, no doubt, be built in Brisbane or Sydney for a sum not much in excess of the London price, and could be towed up to Thursday Island for service in the Straits and on the rivers of New Guinea.

Mr. Milman's brief though interesting report on the condition of the natives at Mowatta (Appendix C.), and Mr. Strode Hall's report on the Mai Cussa and Wasu Cussa Rivers (Appendix G.), throw some light upon the position of affairs in this District. As regards the Fly and the great deltaic region between the Fly and the Aird, very little is yet known. It promises to be a most interesting field for future discovery. I visited this portion of the coast in April, and, finding that a native known as "Mowatta Jack" had been very troublesome and truculent, I deported him for a time to Port Moresby. This compulsory transfer has had a very salutary effect; and "Jack," on his return to Mowatta, broke his bows and arrows, announcing at the same time that he was going to lead a new life. It will be seen by a reference to Mr. Milman's report that there is much need for reformation at Mowatta.

Central Division.

Mr. Romilly's report (Appendix D.) summarises sufficiently the condition of affairs at Port Moresby. The improvements effected during the last few months have been done well and economically. The horses and cattle under the care of Denis Gleeson are thriving, in spite of the very dry season. When I was last at Port Moresby in July only 20 points of rain had fallen since the 1st of January. This terrible drought continues up to date, and the consequence is that fully one half of the cocoanut palms and the fruit trees planted last season are dead. This drought appears to extend to the west of Port Moresby, but not so much to the eastward. Nothing like it has been experienced since the country has become known to us.

Eastern Division.

Most of the pearl-shelling boats which had visited the Louisiade Archipelago last season have now returned to Thursday Island. There is plenty of shell to be had but it lies in too deep water, and the divers cannot stand the pressure. A fair amount of shell, however, has been obtained in China Straits and in Fortescue Straits. Copra still comes in small quantities from Milne Bay.

I found it necessary to decide the question as to the locality where a permanent Government Station should be formed in this division. I finally fixed on Samarai or Dinner Island. The choice lay between China Straits, South Cape, and Teste Island. The late Special Commissioner, Sir Peter Scratchley, was understood to be rather in favour of South Cape (Su-a-u), and he purchased some land there from the natives for the purpose; Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave was in favour of Teste Island, as being likely to prove more healthy and as being inhabited by an intelligent seafaring population who had relations with many of the neighbouring islands. After a full consideration, however, of the whole case, and after a thorough examination of the different localities, I felt bound to decide on China Straits as being the most central, and as providing the best anchorage. The question then lay as to what position in China Straits it was best to choose. I had purchased the Island of Quato from the natives, and the London Missionary Society had, so far as they could obtain a title at all from the natives, acquired Samarai or Dinner Island. This latter place was resorted to by traders; a coal depôt for Her Majesty's ships had been established there, and it was regarded by the natives themselves as a general rendezvous. From the fact that it was specially resorted to by white traders it had become less eligible as a centre of missionary enterprise. I therefore entered into negotiations with the representatives of the London Missionary Society with

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

a view to transfer their interest, whatever it was, from Samarai to Quato, in order that the Government of the Protectorate might have the undisputed possession and occupation of Samarai. Mr. Lawes and Mr. Chalmers recognising the position of affairs, and especially in view of the fact that the island had ceased to be for them an advantageous *point d'appui*, considerately arranged to remove their establishment to one of the neighbouring islands, and accepted from me a transfer to them of the Island of Quato in exchange. I then entered into sole and undisputed possession of Samarai. The island has since then been surveyed. An excellent residence has been erected on one of the highest points of the island at an elevation of about 200 feet above the sea-level, and various improvements have been carried out in the way of drainage. The building of the house caused a great deal of wonderful attention to it on the part of the natives, and many hundreds came from distant localities to see it. The officers resident in China Straits may now, I hope, live under conditions favourable to good health, and the island itself may, I think, by judicious expenditure of a few hundred pounds in addition to what has already been done, be made as healthy as any locality which could be chosen in China Straits. The amount of rain-fall is very considerable, and when there is much rain there are sure to be malarious exhalations after the rainy season, but I do not think that Samarai is likely to prove exceptionally unhealthy. The island, though only 40 acres in area, is very fertile, contains high land, and will provide all the space which is likely to be required by traders for some years to come. The native inhabitants of the neighbouring islands and the mainland immediately opposite are intelligent and interesting. Many of them can be found who will do a fair day's work for what they consider a fair day's wage. Milne Bay in the vicinity of Samarai is a populous district, and one which at no distant time is likely to be resorted to by white men. An interesting excursion for explorers would be to connect the head of Milne Bay with the head of Mullins Harbour. The neck of land which separates them cannot be more than 15 miles across and there does not appear to be any high land intervening.

The discovery of gold at Sudest was made in June, and came about in the following way:—David Lindsay Whyte, who had been engaged in pearl-shelling at Coral Haven, applied to me in April last, at Thursday Island, for a protection area to secure him in the possession of certain gold-bearing reefs which he asserted that he had discovered on Joannet Island. My reply to him was that I could not secure to him any rights, but that I would recommend his application for favourable consideration when sovereignty was proclaimed, and that, in the meantime, if he discovered anything I would be guided by the usage of the Queensland Gold Fields. He came with me to Cooktown, and having obtained assistance there from several enterprising citizens, he organised a party to go to the Louisiade. I chartered to him, at the rate of 10*l.* a month for three months, a small cutter named

the "Juanita" which I purchased at Cooktown for the Protectorate, arranging with Whyte that it should be delivered to me at the end of the time at Samarai.

The party were not successful in finding payable reefs on Joannet, but came on alluvial gold in the bed of the Runcie, a locality which I had visited the year before and which I recommended them to try. This discovery has led to several hundred men going to Sudest. It is as yet uncertain whether a really payable gold field exists, but there can be no doubt that gold is to be found in various localities in New Guinea. Coal is also said to have been found, though I have not myself seen any traces of it.

Applications for Land.

I have at various times during my tenure of office had applications for land in British New Guinea from persons who either professed to be desirous to embark in schemes for the settlement of the country or who conceived that their services as explorers entitled them to reap some reward in this form. I have invariably replied that I had no power to make grants or to confer any special immunities of this kind, and I have drawn attention to the notifications which have from time to time appeared to the effect that no purchases of land from the natives except those made through the Government would have any validity; but I have at the same time stated that these applications would be referred to the Administrator when appointed.

The first application of this kind was from a London syndicate which appeared to have no further knowledge of the country than that which was derived from the very imperfect geographical data available.

The second was from Mr. John Strachan, a master mariner of Sydney.

The third was from Mr. H. C. Everill, the leader of the New South Wales Geographical Society's expedition to the Fly.

The fourth was from Mr. Theodore Bevan, and in addition to these I have received several applications of a minor character based on personal claims to recognition.

With regard to Mr. John Strachan's application, he has stated that he was promised concessions in writing by my predecessor, Sir Peter Scratchley. I can only say that I am not aware that any such promise was made—no such letter was ever shown to me, and I do not believe that any promise of the kind was made, either verbally or in writing. John Strachan's claims on account of discovery are, moreover, very doubtful.

The Mai Cussa or Baxter River, which forms by its bifurcation what this discoverer has been pleased to call Strachan's Island, was navigated and defined by Mr. Chester under instructions from me when I was Colonial Secretary of Queensland in 1877. Strachan's so-called explorations and definitions, subsequently made in 1885, have been proved to be gravely in error by Mr.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Strode Hall, who was despatched by me in April last from Thursday Island in order to ascertain whether the statements made were correct (Appendix G.). Nevertheless, if Mr. John Strachan can find men and money to form a settlement on the Mai Cussa, I see no reason why he should not have a slice of land in that locality. There are hardly any natives on Strachan Island, and they are in mortal terror of their lives from the Togari pirates. If, therefore, Mr. Strachan would undertake to keep off the Togari people from the westward he might be of great use to the New Guinea tribes, which have been decimated by these marauders, and I feel disposed, with my knowledge of the country and its inhabitants, to recommend that his application should be favourably entertained, always taking care that no large monopoly should be granted, and that the native rights, such as they are, should be carefully respected.

The next application which I have referred to is that of Mr. H. C. Everill on behalf of several influential capitalists who state their willingness to take an active interest in the colonization of New Guinea. Mr. Everell, no doubt, did good work in the exploration of the Fly and the Strickland in command of the New South Wales Geographical party, and judging from his papers appears to have had large experience in tropical agriculture. There are great stretches of country on the Fly unoccupied by the natives, and if these can be pointed out and defined, I cannot see any reason why some inducements should not be offered to people to go there, if they are prepared to risk their health, their lives, and their money in these pursuits. It is just a question of *bona fides*. There can be no reason why British New Guinea should not be colonised, always provided that the rights of the native inhabitants are respected. When once a recognised government has been established it should be possible to discriminate and adjust, and I see no reason why this should not be done. It has been proved to be possible in British Borneo, and what has been done there may certainly be done in British New Guinea. If, therefore, Mr. Everill is prepared to find men who will expend their lives and their enterprise on the watershed of the Fly or the Aird, I cannot see why he should not be permitted to do so. The deepest darkness of savagery overhangs that region now, and why should not the light of commerce and civilization be let in upon it? I know that Mr. Everill spent many months in England in connexion with this application, and that he received great encouragement from the Colonial Office in response to my recommendations. He was assured, I am informed, that his proposals would be favourably entertained when a decision had become possible, after the proclamation of sovereignty. A letter has been forwarded to me by Mr. Everill signed by several influential and responsible business men in London indicating the support he was likely to receive there and the amount of money which it is anticipated could be raised there for expenditure in New Guinea, if a concession of unoccupied land could be obtained. I myself see no chance of any improvement in the western portion of British New Guinea except in some such way as this.

The last application I shall refer to is that of Mr. Theodore Bevan, who considers that his services as an explorer ought to be recognised by a grant of 254,000 acres. This is an estimate very much beyond what I am disposed to think would be an equivalent for the discoveries made by that gentleman, though I willingly admit their importance. Nor ought it to be forgotten that a large share of the honour attached to them should be credited to Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co. who supplied the steamer employed in the service and who bore a large proportion of the cost of the outlay. These are considerations which ought, I think, to be borne in mind if the claims thus made are seriously considered by the present Administration. That they should in some way be recognised I do not doubt, if their recognition can be made to serve towards the opening out and civilizing of the country at the head of the Papuan Gulf. Experience in other countries, however, has amply proved that the granting of land apart from conditions of settlement and a real equivalent obtained in some form of value is the most fatal impediment to future improvement. It would be the same in New Guinea, and though I do not think there are any valid reasons against the moderate alienation of land where there is so much which is of no utility whatever to the natives, care should be taken to secure some real equivalent in settlement and civilization.

Mission Work.

There has been a healthy expansion of mission work during the past year on the part of the London Missionary Society.

The Rev. Mr. Pierce has gone to live at Kerepunu. All the preparatory arrangements have also been made for Mr. Chalmers to reside at Motu-Motu, a station from which the important tribes inhabiting the country at the head of the Papuan Gulf can be approached much more readily than from Port Moresby. I am happy to say that the Rev. Mr. Savage, from Murray Island, has also established some new stations on the Fly. There is unlimited scope in that district for missionary enterprise. At the east end there is no resident white missionary, and until there is there will be no advance in mission work. I regard Milne Bay as a hopeful field for the work of an intelligent white missionary, and Killerton would be a suitable place, I think, for him to reside.

The French Catholic missionaries at Yule Island are likely to be useful pioneers. Members of the fraternity have explored the San Joseph River, and the first difficulties connected with the establishment of the station have been overcome. I visited them in July, and found them all in good health. Father Navarre, who lately visited Rome in order to receive episcopal consecration, has now returned, bringing with him both sheep and cattle. The relations between the two missions are perfectly friendly at present, and I see no reason why they should not continue to be so. Where British sovereignty and supremacy exists perfect toleration is guaranteed. There will be a fair field and no favour

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

shown; and if there is rivalry, as there will be, it ought to be of the kind which strives how best to illustrate the virtues of Christian charity.

Mail Contract.

Early in January Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co. gave me notice, under the terms of their contract, that they proposed to terminate their mail contract in July. They had been originally induced to undertake this contract in the hope that the regular service of the steamers along the coast might lead to some settlement and to the opening out of new channels of commerce. Mr. Burns visited England last year, partly with the intention of forming a trading company for New Guinea, and there is no doubt that money amply sufficient for such an enterprise would have been forthcoming, but there was then much uncertainty as to the proclamation of sovereignty, and this being in suspense no company was formed. It is possible that the proposals then contemplated may be revived now that sovereignty has been proclaimed. Nothing is likely to conduce more to the benefit of the natives or to the security of those who may be induced to settle on the coast of New Guinea than regular steam communication. Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co. made a spirited effort to open out a trade, and they lost money, I know, in making the attempt. Circumstances were somewhat against them, and the long delay in the proclamation of sovereignty was discouraging to those who were willing to invest money in New Guinea enterprise. The discovery of gold, however, taken in connexion with the establishment of a recognised Government, is now certain to direct fresh attention to the means of communication along the coast, and I am not without hopes that either Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co., or some equally enterprising firm, may be induced to enter the field once more. On receiving notice of discontinuance from Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co. I called for fresh tenders. No eligible offer was received, and I then entered into an arrangement for a monthly service by a top-sail schooner—the "Lucy and Adelaide." This contract is for six trips from Cooktown to Samarai, and Port Moresby, returning to Cooktown, a subsidy of 80*l.* being paid for each trip.

So far the service has been well conducted, the schooner making the round trip in about thirteen days, but this regularity cannot be expected to last after the north-west monsoon sets in. As regards the carrying out of the mail service during the eighteen months it was in operation, I was on the whole perfectly satisfied with the manner in which it was conducted. There were occasional delays, and there was one complete break-down, but having regard to the exceptional nature of the service and to the small subsidy paid, I have no reason to complain. I regret that it resulted in a money loss to the contractors, for the cessation of the service is likely to prove a discouragement to enterprise on the coast, but I trust that it may be revived under more hopeful circumstances.

Melbourne Exhibition.

An interesting collection of objects of natural history and of ethnographical art connected with New Guinea was made for the Melbourne Exhibition.

These were forwarded through the Queensland Commissioners, who kindly agreed to see that they were properly shown.

It was found, however, that the space available for Queensland was limited, and that it was not sufficient to admit of the New Guinea exhibits being advantageously displayed.

It was arranged, therefore, that they should be removed to an annexe allotted specially for the purpose, and Mr. W. C. Lindt, who had been appointed by me to act as an honorary commissioner on behalf of British New Guinea, kindly undertook to supervise the Court, which was fitted up with taste and attracted some attention.

Contributions.

A statement will be found at page 22 (Appendix B.) of the sums contributed by the Australian Governments to the Government of the Protected Territory. The proportionate amounts paid by the several Governments were estimated on a population basis fixed in 1885, and adhered to subsequently. A deficiency arose in the annual subsidy of 15,000*l.*, in consequence of the withdrawal of South Australia from the number of the contributing Colonies. Victoria and Queensland having originally agreed to guarantee the stipulated amount, I felt bound to look to them as guarantors as long as the provisional arrangement was in force. The Government of Victoria, however, held that the guarantee only applied to the first year, and that it did not refer to any subsequent period. Queensland recognised the obligation so far as the terms of the Act of Parliament permitted. These prescribed that "a sum bearing the same proportion to the sum of fifteen thousand pounds as the population of Queensland bears to the total population of the Australasian Colonies which for the time being contribute towards such expenses should be paid to the maintenance of the Government." An amount of 297*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* has, accordingly, been received from the Government of Queensland, and this represents the proportionate amount required to make up the deficiency. The correspondence arising out of these claims led to the expression of a difference of opinion between the Government of Victoria and myself. Mr. Gillies regarded some statements I had made as imputing a breach of faith to the Government of South Australia. I could not myself regard it in any other light, though I regretted that expressions I had made use of should have caused any feeling of soreness on the part of Victoria, a Colony which had always faithfully and promptly responded to my requisitions. Nevertheless, the fact could not be disputed—South Australia by its Legislature had passed very strongly worded resolutions requesting Her

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Majesty's Government to annex New Guinea. The delegated representatives of South Australia, afterwards, in combination with the representatives of the other Australian Governments in conference assembled, pledged themselves by resolution to find the means to carry out this annexation and to pass Acts of Parliament securing the subsidy. Yet, after accepting this responsibility for two years, and without consulting the Legislature, the Government of South Australia discontinued its payments.

This capricious action of a passing Administration I have not hesitated to characterise as it deserves. It became my duty to endeavour to obtain a recognition of this deficiency from the concerting Colonies, and to secure from them the means to make up the stipulated amount. I corresponded with all the Colonies on the subject. Queensland met the matter in the way I have stated. Mr. Gillies, the Prime Minister of Victoria, addressed a letter to Sir Henry Parkes, of New South Wales, and agreed to be guided by the decision of Sir Henry Parkes.

I received an assurance from Sir Henry Parkes that he would communicate with Mr. Gillies, and come to a settlement one way or another. I regret to say, however, that this intention was not carried out, and no settlement was arrived at. I am obliged, therefore, to enter the short payments on account of South Australia as unsatisfied. Whatever steps may be taken hereafter to make up this deficiency, I feel bound to record it. It seems to be especially unfair to those Governments which have honourably kept their word that any one of the number should have declined to recognise its obligations without consulting Parliament, and without also consulting the Colonies with which it had entered into engagements equally binding on all.

Short payments, amounting in the case of New Zealand to 667*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, and in the case of Western Australia to 40*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, are also recorded, but those only refer to the last quarter, from 1st June to the 31st of August, for which no demand has been made.

The balance to credit of my account on the 31st October, amounting to 1,397*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, has been transferred to the public account of the Administrator of British New Guinea.

Mortality among the Native Teachers.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave has supplied me with a memorandum on the mortality of the native teachers. The reasons which led to that exceptional mortality have now to a great extent passed away. They were incidental to the first occupation of the country. Similar exceptional mortality has at times prevailed on the coast of Queensland.

I quite agree with Mr. Musgrave that a fitting monument should be erected at Port Moresby to those who laid down their lives as the early pioneers of Christian missionary enterprise in New Guinea. A sum of 300*l.* might with great propriety be set apart for this purpose from the amount handed over by me to the Administrator.

Trade of New Guinea.

A paper by Mr. Musgrave dealing with the trade and resources of New Guinea will be found in Appendix F. It contains much valuable information. The natural resources of New Guinea are no doubt very considerable. Its contiguity to Australia renders it certain that these resources will some day be adequately dealt with.

The real question is—how is it to be colonised—by what race, white or black?—It is a tropical country, intensely tropical.

Hitherto tropical countries have been regarded as the home of the dark races. Australia, however, declares that tropical Australia is not for the dark races, and if this be so it may be concluded that British New Guinea, being now an appanage of Australia, is destined ultimately to be the habitation of a white race. This is at variance with all our previous colonial experience, but it has not yet been proved to be at variance with natural laws. It may be hoped, however, that the analogy and example of the West Indies referred to by Mr. Musgrave will not be followed, for they add nothing to our strength as a people, and they count for little in an estimate of either our national or our imperial resources. The immediate value of British New Guinea to Australia at the present time is the strategical advantage which the possession of the south coast gives us. Along that coast line, from Hall Sound to Pitt Bay, there is a series of magnificent natural harbours.

It is well both for British and Australian interests that the British flag flies on that coast.

The ten years of administration which are provided for under the Act now in force will see great changes in British New Guinea, and if during that period it should appear that 500,000*l.* is required from the associated Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, instead of 150,000*l.*, I am very confident that the expenditure will be well repaid in the development and preparation for settlement of a very fine and a very interesting country.

It has been a source of some honest pride to me that I have been permitted to have a share in giving effect to the first imperfect forms of administration.

I beg to tender my grateful thanks to those officers who have acted under me in Her Majesty's service during my term of office, and who have aided me effectually in the discharge of my duties.

JOHN DOUGLAS,
Her Majesty's Special Commissioner.

Brisbane, 31st October 1888.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure from

DR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 30TH NOVEMBER 1887	--	4,030 19 0
To GRANTS IN AID—		
New South Wales, six months' contribution to 31st May 1888	2,042 7 2	
Victoria, six months' contribution to 31st May 1888	2,346 14 4	
Queensland, six months' contribution to 31st May 1888 £581 11 11		
Queensland, proportion of South Australian contribution 1st December 1887 to 31st May 1888 66 3 0	647 14 11	
Tasmania, six months' contribution to 31st May 1887	316 2 6	
		5,352 18 11
To OTHER RECEIPTS —		
Proceeds, sale of coal	247 10 6	
Gun licences	19 5 0	
"Juanita" cutter, rent of	30 0 0	
		296 15 0
Carried forward		9,700 3 11

DIX A.

1st *December* 1887 *to* 31*st May* 1888, *inclusive.*

CR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
BY ESTABLISHMENTS—			
SALARIES FIXED—			
Special Commissioner, 1st December 1887 to 31st May 1888	1,250 0 0		
Deputy Commissioner, 1st October 1887 to 31st March 1888	100 0 0		
Assistant Deputy Commissioner, 1st January 1888 to 31st May 1888	262 10 0		
Accountant and Private Secretary, 1st December 1887 to 31st May 1888	200 0 0		
		1,812 10 0	
ALLOWANCES—			
Travelling Expenses, Special Commissioner and Staff	—	360 9 9	
			2,172 19 9
BY SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—			
MAIL SERVICE—			
Burns, Philp, and Co. (six months')	300 0 0		
SCHOONER "HYGEIA"—			
Clothing	£ 54 s. 6 d. 8		
Insurance	77 12 6		
Victualling	150 4 0		
Wages of master	100 0 0		
Wages of crew	265 2 0		
Marine stores, &c.	225 7 4		
Incidental expenses	26 15 10		
Repairs	78 10 11		
	977 19 3		
SCHOONER "GOVERNOR CAIRNS"			
Survey of hull (further expenses)	34 4 9		
		1,312 4 0	
THURSDAY ISLAND SETTLEMENT—			
Deputy Commissioner, 1st January to 31st March 1888	25 0 0		
		25 0 0	
PORT MORESBY SETTLEMENT—			
Salaries and Wages—			
E. G. Edelfelt, 1st February to 30th April 1888	£ 62 s. 10 d. 0		
G. Hunter, 1st November 1887 to 30th April 1888	120 0 0		
R. Hunter, 1st November 1887 to 31st May 1888	140 0 0		
Master of cutter, 1st November 1887 to 30th April 1888	90 0 0		
General wages, 1st November 1887 to 30th April 1888	650 6 6		
Wages of signalman, 1st November 1887 to 30th April 1888	48 0 0		
	1,110 16 6		
Allowances, &c.—			
Travelling expenses	46 18 0		
Miscellaneous Expenditure—			
Furniture for various buildings	£ 38 s. 5 d. 6		
Erima Cottage, improvements	12 0 0		
Fencing	66 5 11		
Building material	111 1 3		
Water supply	10 0 0		
Tools, &c.	32 14 6		
Stores and trade	172 15 3		
"Maino" stores, &c.	19 12 6		
Horses, purchase of (stallion)	68 10 0		
Bungalow, Additions to	23 0 0		
Saddlery	23 6 3		
Accommodation, house furniture, &c.	407 15 8		
Badili Lands, Survey of	30 0 0		
Boat-house, Erection of	12 0 0		
Breakwater, Granville West	50 0 0		
"Maino," repairs, spars, and sails	123 6 11		
Agricultural and horticultural	8 0 0		
Incidental expenses	52 11 7		
Agency fees, &c. (A. Goldie)	9 18 5		
	1,271 3 9		
		2,428 18 3	
Carried forward		3,766 2 3	2,172 19 9

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure from

DR.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward - - - - - - - - -	9,700	3	11
	9,700	3	11

1st *December* 1887 *to* 31st *May* 1888 *inclusive*—cont.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward - - -	—	3,766 2 3	2,172 19 9
BY SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—*cont.*			
MOTU MOTU SETTLEMENT—			
Government Agent, 1st May 1887 to 31st January 1888	—	77 10 0	
DINNER ISLAND (SAMARAI) SETTLEMENT—			
Salary of agent, 1st January to 31st May 1888 - - - - - - - 131 13 4			
Wages, &c. (General) - - - 68 0 0			
	199 13 4		
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE—			
Stores and trade - - - - 27 8 8			
Furniture - - - - - 75 15 6			
Incidental expenditure - - - 16 0 0			
	119 4 2		
		318 17 6	
GENERAL CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE—			
Cutter "Juanita," purchase of - - - -	150 0 0		
Polynesian boatman, Engagement of - - -	98 7 11		
Audit fees, 1st June 1887 to 31st May 1888 - -	50 0 0		
Cablegrams - - - - - -	26 16 3		
"Truganini," special services - - - -	74 12 6		
Incidental expenditure - - - - -	139 11 1		
General agency fees - - - - -	32 16 2		
Melbourne Exhibition—Curios, &c. - - -	61 13 6		
		633 17 5	
EXPEDITIONS—			
H. O. Forbes to Mount Owen Stanley, compensation loss of instruments, horses, &c. - - - -	37 10 0		
H. O. Forbes to Mount Owen Stanley, balance of sustenance allowance to 31st December 1887 -	15 0 0		
		52 10 0	
			4,848 17 2
			7,021 16 11
BY BALANCE to 1st of June - - - - -	—	—	2,678 7 0
			9,700 3 11

BINGHAM A. HELY,
Accountant.

JOHN DOUGLAS,
Special Commissioner.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of the Protectorate of British New Guinea for the period between the 1st December 1887 and the 31st May 1888, amounting on the debit side (including the sum of 4,050*l.* 10*s.*, balance brought forward) to 9,700*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, and on the credit side to 7,021*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*; and find that all sums received have been duly brought to account; and that the several payments made have been correctly computed, and are supported by duly certified and acquitted vouchers.

The Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland have paid their contributions in full to the 31st May 1888. New Zealand, Tasmania, and Western Australia have each paid to the 31st May 1887 only. South Australia has not contributed since the 1st June 1886; but Queensland, in addition to her own contribution, has paid 132*l.* 6*s.* in each of the financial years 1886–7 and 1887–8 towards making good the grant withdrawn by South Australia. No other Colony has similarly contributed.

W. L. G. DREW,
Auditor General.

Department of Audit, Queensland,
Brisbane, 9th June 1888.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

APPEN-

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure from

DR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 31ST MAY 1888 -	—	2,678 7 0
To GRANTS IN AID—		
Western Australia, twelve months' contribution to 31st May 1888 -	161 16 9	
New South Wales, three months' contribution to 31st August 1888 -	1,021 3 7	
Victoria, three months' contribution to 31st August 1888 - -	1,173 7 2	
New Zealand, twelve months' contribution to 31st May 1888 -	2,668 18 9	
Queensland, three months' contribution to 31st August 1888 - - - - - - - - - - £ 290 15 11		
Queensland, proportion of South Australian contribution to 31st August 1888 - - - - - - 33 1 6		
	323 17 5	
Tasmania, fifteen months' contribution to 31st August 1888 -	790 6 3	
		6,139 9 11
To OTHER RECEIPTS—		
Bank interest - - - - - - - - -		34 8 1
Carried forward - - - - -		8,852 5 0

DIX A.—*cont.*

the 1st June to the 3rd September 1888.*

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Establishments—			
Salaries (Fixed)—			
Special Commissioner	833 6 8		
Deputy Commissioner	83 6 8		
Assistant Deputy Commissioner	180 16 8		
Accountant and Private Secretary	103 6 8		
		1,200 16 8	
Allowances—			
Travelling expenses, Special Commissioner and staff	—	333 18 8	
			1,534 15 4
By Services (exclusive of Establishments)—			
Mail Service—			
Burns, Philp, and Co. (six months', 1st March to 31st August 1888)	300 0 0		
Schooner "Hygeia"—			
Victualling	£ 412 17 5		
Wages of master	210 13 4		
Wages of crew	534 12 8		
Marine stores and fittings	97 3 3		
Incidentals	31 17 2		
Repairs	42 17 0		
Insurance	70 2 6		
	1,400 3 4		
		1,700 3 4	
Thursday Island—			
Deputy Commissioner	41 13 4		
		41 13 4	
Port Moresby Settlement—			
Salaries and Wages—			
Government agents	£ 227 6 8		
Master of cutter	61 10 0		
Signalman	32 0 0		
General wages	769 3 9		
	1,090 0 5		
Allowances—			
Travelling expenses	19 0 6		
Miscellaneous Expenditure—			
Building materials, tools, &c.	£ 34 15 0		
Fencing	111 2 0		
"Maino" stores, &c.	22 16 6		
Stores and trade	163 1 0		
Saddlery	59 18 6		
Boat house, erection of	4 0 0		
Agricultural and horticultural	6 12 0		
Furniture for various buildings	29 9 9		
Incidental expenses	25 5 6		
Agency fees, &c. (A. Goldie)	17 13 0		
	474 13 5		
		1,583 14 2	
Dinner Island (Samarai) Settlement—			
Mail Service—			
German New Guinea Co. (six months, 1st March to 31st August 1888)	150 0 0		
Quato Island (China Straits)—			
Erection of house	50 0 0		
Salaries and Wages—			
Government agent	£ 64 11 8		
Wages, &c. (General)	128 3 6		
	192 15 2		
Contingencies—			
Draining swamp, &c.	£ 73 9 3		
Building material and residence	951 13 0		
Furniture	45 6 6		
R. Hunter, allowance for special service	20 0 0		
Carried forward		3,325 10 10	1,534 15 4

* Including sundry payments on account of this period made to the 31st October 1888.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure from

DR.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward - - - - - - - - -	8,852	5	0
	8,852	5	0

1st June to the 3rd September 1888—cont.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward - - - -	- -	3,325 10 10	1,534 15 4
BY SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—*cont.*			
DINNER ISLAND (SAMARAI) SETTLEMENT—*cont.*			
Contingencies—cont. £ s. d.			
Stores and trade - - - - 67 15 1			
Incidentals, tools, &c. - - - 22 7 6			
Rent of house - - - - 36 13 4			
Clearing, &c. - - - - 30 0 0			
Surveys - - - - - 54 9 0			
Purchase of cattle - - - 40 0 0			
	1,341 13 8		
		1,734 8 10	
GENERAL CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE—			
H. Burkitt, honorarium for issuing "Permits" -	50 0 0		
Clerical assistance - - - - -	20 5 0		
Incidental expenditure - - - - -	290 15 11		
Cablegrams, &c. - - - - - -	23 16 3		
Audit fees - - - - - -	16 13 4		
General agency fees - - - - -	99 9 1		
Melbourne Exhibition—Curios, services of attendant, &c. - - - - -	223 19 6		
Refund to Tasmania of contribution overpaid -	6 6 2		
		731 5 3	
EXPEDITIONS—			
Forbes' Expedition to Mt. Owen Stanley—			
Compensation to D. Gleeson for loss of personal effects - - - - - -	8 10 0		
Strode Hall's Expedition to Mai Cussa River -	120 12 4		
		129 2 4	
			5,920 7 3
			7,455 2 7
BY BALANCE TRANSFERRED TO CREDIT OF ADMINISTRATOR - - - - - -	—	—	1,397 2 5
			8,852 5 0

JOHN DOUGLAS,
Special Commissioner.

Bingham A. Hely, Accountant.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of the Protectorate of British New Guinea for the period between the 1st June and the 3rd September 1888 inclusive, amounting on the debit side (including the sum of 2,678*l.* 7*s.* balance brought forward) to 8,852*l.* 5*s.*, and on the credit side to 7,455*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*; and find that all sums have been duly brought to account; and that the several payments have been correctly computed, and are supported by duly certified and acquitted vouchers. This account is now finally closed, the available balance, viz., 1,397*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, having been transferred by the Special Commissioner to the present Administrator, the Honourable Dr. Wm. MacGregor.

The Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania have paid their contributions in full to the 31st August 1888. New Zealand and Western Australia have paid to the 31st May 1888. South Australia has not contributed. Queensland, in addition to her own contribution, has paid 33*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* during the period under audit towards making good the grant withdrawn by South Australia.

W. L. G. DREW,
Auditor General.

Department of Audit, Queensland,
Brisbane, 31st October 1888.

APPENDIX B.

Protectorate of British New Guinea.

Statement showing the Contributions in Aid due from and made by the several Contributing Colonies for the Financial Years ending 31st of May 1885, 1886, 1887, and 1888 respectively, and for the Quarter ended 31st August 1888.

Contributing Colony.	Total Contributions due to 31st August 1888.	Contributions actually paid for Financial Year ended 31st May 1885. Date.	31st May 1885. Amount.	31st May 1886. Date.	31st May 1886. Amount.	31st May 1887. Date.	31st May 1887. Amount.	31st May 1888. Date.	31st May 1888. Amount.	Contributions paid for Quarter ended 31st August 1888. Date.	Contributions paid for Quarter ended 31st August 1888. Amount.	Amount short-paid.
	£ s. d.	1885.	£ s. d.	1886.	£ s. d.	1887.	£ s. d.	1887.	£ s. d.	1888.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victoria - -	19,947 1 10	19 May -	4,693 8 8	1 April -	4,337 19 2	21 Jan. -	2,346 14 4	1 Dec. -	2,346 14 4	29 August	1,173 7 2	—
				3 „ -	355 9 6	26 May -	2,346 14 4	1888. 20 April -	2,346 14 4			
New South Wales -	17,360 0 11	22 „ -	4,084 14 4	22 „ -	4,084 14 4	18 Feb. -	4,084 14 4	1887. 19 Dec. -	2,042 7 2	7 Sept. -	1,021 3 7	—
								1888. 10 May -	2,042 7 2			
New Zealand - -	11,342 19 8	1 June -	2,668 18 9	23 July -	2,668 18 9	18 July -	2,668 18 9	12 Sept. -	2,668 18 9	—	—	667 4 8
South Australia -	6,479 9 3	22 May -	1,524 11 7	9 April -	1,524 11 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,430 6 1
Queensland* - -	4,943 10 11	19 „ -	1,500 0 0	29 „ -	826 7 6	4 Jan. -	581 11 11	1887. 2 Nov. -	647 14 11	23 August	323 17 5	—
						4 July -	713 17 11	1888. 3 April -	647 14 11			
Tasmania - -	2,678 16 3	23 June -	600 0 0	2 „ -	630 6 2	26 Jan. -	315 3 1	1888. 29 Oct. -	630 6 2	29 Oct. -	157 11 7	—
				25 June -	30 6 2	1888. 17 Jan. -	315 3 1					
Western Australia -	687 16 2	1886. 2 April -	161 16 9	15 April -	161 16 9	15 Feb. -	161 16 9	1 Sept. -	161 16 9	—	—	40 9 2
Fiji - - -	310 5 0	1885. 26 June -	100 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	- -	†210 5 0
Total - -	63,750 0 0		15,333 10 1		14,620 9 11		13,534 14 6		13,534 14 6		2,675 19 9	4,348 4 11

* Queensland has paid 297*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* as the proportionate amount due to make up South Australian deficiency.
† Fiji has been excused payment.

APPENDIX C.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILMAN to the SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

Government Residency,
Thursday Island, August 31, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour, in compliance with your Excellency's request, to furnish you with the following short supplementary report on the western portion of British New Guinea. Though I have only been able to pay one visit this year to the mainland I have been in constant communication with people who have had better opportunities of observing than I have had.

As regards the extreme western boundary, the expedition of Mr. Strode-Hall up the Wai-Cussa and Mai-Cussa Rivers points to the conclusion that in the immediate neighbourhood of these rivers the country is very sparsely populated. This I attribute to the fear of the Dogari or Togari pirates, who keep the inhabitants of the southern shores in a constant state of dread during the months that they infest the coast. These people should certainly be checked, and the only way to do so would be for a party to lay wait for them at Dauan, where information could be obtained of their approach at the commencement of the north-west monsoon. Boigo (Talbot Island) still remains deserted on account of the Togari pirates, the few remaining natives having settled permanently at Dauan (Cornwallis Island). They are a quiet, peaceable sort of people, and I prefer them to their neighbours of Saibai.

As regards the Saibai people, I have at last induced them to make and bring in for sale here the mats they manufacture so neatly. I have found a ready sale for them, and I trust that in this way a small industry may be regularly established. I look upon the Saibai people as belonging to New Guinea, though they are really Queensland subjects, and it should be the endeavour of the future Administrators to encourage small industries as much as possible both here and elsewhere. They get a little bêche-de-mer, but not as much as they ought considering that they have a good cutter which has been given them by the Government.

I am glad to say that I have found a safe passage to Mowatta by keeping near to the east end of Saibai, and getting within three miles or so from the New Guinea coast before steering eastward for the mouth of the Katow River. In only one place did I get less than two fathoms, and I think that even this shallow spot might be avoided. On my last visit I anchored in six fathoms about a mile off the village of Mowatta, and had no difficulty either in landing or in returning to the "Albatross." The village at Mowatta has been greatly improved since I visited it last year. Nearly all the natives now wear clothes; formerly even a shirt only was quite an exception. This change is entirely owing to the fact that many of the men are now willing workers in the

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

bêche-de-mer fisheries. Several boats are now worked from Mowatta, and are manned entirely by Mowatta natives; they are doing well. The chief matter is to see that the natives get fairly paid for their work, and I would suggest that an agent be appointed to see that this is done. All engagements and discharges should be made before him. For this purpose I have temporarily authorised Mr. Edward Beardmore to exercise a certain amount of supervision over the trade and the natives engaged in it, and I have instructed him to report to me occasionally. I believe that Mr. Beardmore might with propriety be permanently appointed. He gets on well with the natives, does not interfere with their women, and he has shown himself very willing to carry out any instructions I have given him.

Previous to my last visit to Mowatta I had heard that the younger Chief Gamia was in the habit of brutally ill-treating the women. This has caused great discontent among the people, and he has virtually lost all authority over them. On my visit to Mowatta I practically deposed Gamia, and gave my recognition to the other Chief Gabia, by presenting him with a staff of authority from Queen Victoria. I also transferred the custody of the flag to him, and in the presence of the assembled people I told them that I should henceforth recognize Gabia as head Chief, and that I should look to him in future to keep order in the village. They all appeared to understand what I had done, and to be content with it. I arranged also with Gabia that he was to build a native house for "Government" to come to when they were visited by anyone in authority. In payment for this I left 10 lb. of tobacco with Mr. Beardmore. I further addressed Gabia and told him that he must do his best to put down the hideous practice of sodomy, which is carried on most extensively, and almost openly, young boys being initiated in the practice formally at a certain season of the year. It is probable that this abominable habit is not confined to Mowatta.

During my visit a large number of natives came off to the "Albatross," and were astonished at the practice made by the Nordenfeldt at 1,500 yards.

A missionary teacher is now stationed at Mowatta, but he is a weak specimen, and will have, I fear, but little influence over the natives. The Rev. E. B. Savage has been up the Fly lately to Soomioot, and reports the natives as quiet and well. He also reports that the Keiwai people are more hopeful than they were. He has established a teacher at a large village on the eastern side of Keiwai Island. He speaks well of these people. He proposes on his next visit to the Fly to go as far as Abru, the large village visited by Mr. Cholmondeley and myself last year. He intends furthur to take Karossa with him, and will try to bring Papina, the Chief of Abru, into Thursday Island. I think that much good may be done by bringing some of the principal Chiefs across the Straits, so that they may see our houses and some of our big ships.

A bird-shooting party penetrated inland a short time since from Mowatta to about the same distance as that reached by Captain

Cole last year. They report that the natives were quiet and friendly. I believe that the same party, though unknown to me, have gone out a second time on a prospecting expedition.

In conclusion, I should wish to point out that if the natives were regularly visited much good could be got out of them by fostering their small local industries and teaching them new ones. The dread of these Togari people, I must repeat, keeps them in a most unsettled and unsatisfactory condition.

I must add that the deportation of "Jack" to Port Moresby under your Excellency's personal instructions, and his brief period of enforced retirement there, has had a most salutary effect on the people of Mowatta. On his return from Port Moresby he burned his weapons, and announced that he was going to lead a new life, following the ways of peace.

The system of appointing a few policemen at each place, one which I have found work well in the islands of Torres Straits, might, I think, be adopted at Mowatta and at other places in New Guinea.

A separate code of punishments might be drawn up for the offences most rife at each place, and the Chief should be held responsible for giving effect to them.

I was accompanied on my last visit to Mowatta by Professor Haddon, who has come out from England to report on the marine zoology of our coral reefs. He was much interested by what he saw, and I am pleased to know that he thought highly and hopefully of the first Papuans he has seen.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HUGH MILMAN,
Deputy Commissioner for the Western Division of New Guinea.

To the Special Commissioner for
British New Guinea.

APPENDIX D.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROMILLY TO THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

SIR, Cooktown, September 11, 1888.

I HAVE the honour, in compliance with your request, to forward you herewith a detailed statement of the work done during the term of my residence at Port Moresby.

After spending some months in the eastern part of New Guinea I handed the Hygeia over to your Excellency, and, at the beginning of November 1887 took up my residence at Port Moresby, where I remained until the beginning of September this year. For the first two or three months there were no means, owing to the want of money, of doing anything of consequence, except keeping the natives quiet. These, generally speaking, are coastal tribes extending as far to the eastward as Aroma, and as far to

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the westward as Motu Motu. All the landing-places, villages, and districts between these two points I visited in the cutter "Maino." During the whole term of my residence at Port Moresby there was no disturbance of any sort. There were the ordinary native reports of fighting and quarrelling among themselves, but these disputes were not worth interfering with, and in fact, I had no means of stopping them.

As regards the actual work done, the following are the particulars:—From the 19th to the 26th January the men were employed putting up a flagstaff at the Government bungalow, and the necessary timber was got, with great trouble, at a place called Manu Manu, about 36 miles from Port Moresby. On the 31st January I started in the cutter on a visit to the districts to the eastward, which lasted until the 7th February. I found everything quiet. From the 7th to the 25th February the men were employed getting timber for fencing in the land bought by the Protectorate Government. After your Excellency's departure for Cooktown on the 24th February I commenced making improvements in Mr. Edelfelt's cottage, and building a verandah, store-room, and kitchen. On the 5th March I began painting the Government bungalow, and on the 9th March I began building a bath-room off the kitchen. On the 17th March I took over four additional hands, engaged by Mr. Musgrave in Queensland. On the 21st March the bath-room was finished, and I began connecting the bungalow with the bath-room and cook-house by a covered passage. On the 23rd March the painting was finished. On the 26th March I sailed in the "Ellangowan" westward to Motu Motu, visiting the intervening districts. I called at the French Mission at Yule Island, and while there ascertained that the natives who had molested Cameron's party up the St. Joseph's River had not intended to do them any harm. They simply, like most natives, could not resist their habit of pilfering, and as a proof of their goodwill sent bags of rice and other trade which they had stolen, down to a coast village 50 miles away, to lie there until the owners should take it away. This is a course of action I never knew natives take before. On the 31st March I got to the village of Motu Motu, where my reception by the natives was of a very gratifying character. On the 2nd April I returned to Port Moresby. I found that the boat-house, a very frail structure, had been blown down, and on the 4th April started to build a new one. I commissioned Mr. Cameron, a well-known Queensland surveyor, to survey the Badili land, which had been purchased by the Protectorate, and on the 11th April he completed his work. On the 12th April the Motu Motu trading fleet arrived at Port Moresby. It consisted of 11 "lakatois," or trading canoes, and their crews, numbering some 300 men, came to the bungalow to return the visit I had paid them at Motu Motu. Mr. Edelfelt had brought back the Chief's baton of office, the man with whom Commodore Erskine had left it having died. I now presented it to Hori, in presence of the whole of his tribe. Before doing so I asked the assembled tribe, "Is it your wish that I should give this

stick to Hori?" And they all cried out "Hori! Hori!" On the 14th April I sent out a shooting party to collect specimens, birds of paradise, &c. for the Melbourne Exhibition. On the 18th April I began improving the road from the beach to the bungalow, which was in a very bad state indeed. On the 19th April I began building a solid stockyard, as the old one was in a bad condition. The site selected by yourself is at the corner of the old and new paddocks. Towards the end of April there appeared to be an epidemic of malarial fever here. On the 15th May I appointed my old servant, Charles Kowald, caretaker, at 8*l.* a month, of the accommodation house at Ela, which had been occupied by De-Raeve, the recent lessee of it. On the 24th of May, the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday, I dressed the flagstaff, and had the whole of the population of the village up to the bungalow. I informed them of the fact that it was Her Majesty's birthday, and gave each person two pannikins of rice, one stick of tobacco, and a biscuit. There were 800 natives present on this occasion. On the 29th May the fence round the Government property was finished. It is about two miles in length. On the 30th May I engaged Neil Anderson, an Islay man, as mate for the cutter, at 9*l.* a month. In the middle of May a prospecting party went up the St. Joseph's River, but returned in the middle of June without having found more than the colour of gold. On the 22nd June Mr. Cameron began to survey the road through the Badili land, and I sent some of my men with him to put pegs in and otherwise help him. On the 29th June I sailed to Kabibi, to the westward, to visit the inland villages there. Crossing the Kido bar our boat was upset. There were 22 persons in her, including two women, and a child a year old. We lost everything, my own property, which included eight guns and rifles, being worth about 200*l.* However, we all reached the beach safely. On the 23rd July, in accordance with instructions, I commenced forming the Badili road, following the contoured track marked by your Excellency round the hill from Ela Beach. It is about a mile and a half in length, and will for the future be the principal road inland. On the same day I put another gang of men on cleaning out the waterholes, and laying down pipes to them from the springs. On the 24th July I sent the cutter away to cut mangrove timber for renewing all the beacons in the harbour. On the 30th July I started a new track to intersect the Ela track. Kerr, the master of the cutter, with his men were then working at the beacons in the harbour, and a gang of men was employed at the waterholes. On the 2nd August I started another dam out at Ela. The harbour beacons and both tracks were finished on the 4th August, and on the 8th August the principal dam, estimated to hold 140,000 gallons, was finished. On the 20th August fencing-in the native reserve was completed, the fence being all new. On the 23rd August I started re-fencing the cemetery, as the old fence was tumbling to pieces, and on the 1st September this work was finished. On the 3rd September the yearly fleet of trading canoes, 15 in all, sailed from Port

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Moresby westward, and on the 4th September the "Opal" came in. Dr. MacGregor read the commission, and my term of office under the Protectorate came to an end.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH H. ROMILLY.

His Excellency the Special Commissioner
for British New Guinea.

This paper is published at Mr. Musgrave's request.—J.D.

APPENDIX E.

MEMORANDUM on the MORTALITY OCCURRING AMONGST POLYNESIAN TEACHERS of the LONDON MISSION SOCIETY in BRITISH NEW GUINEA, and the ALLEGED DANGEROUS UNHEALTHINESS of the TERRITORY.

The accompanying returns, copies of extracts, &c., which together form an Appendix herewith, yield almost sufficient information to prove that the alleged dangerous nature of the New Guinea climate, as exemplified by the deaths of mission teachers, is still a question *sub judice*, since, if the testimony of impartial witnesses quoted is to be received, it implies that the exceptional death rate among the teachers is to be explained by their having been often placed in exceptional positions, and having been subjected from time to time to exceptional privations.

After being associated with British New Guinea, however, for three years, and having given my best efforts to obtain all *facts* possible, without being unduly influenced by strong statements or hastily drawn inferences, a few additional remarks may tend to correct certain conclusions on the question of the *presumed insalubrity* of British New Guinea, as suggested by numerous deaths of Polynesian mission teachers. In making them I shall studiously avoid any that appear of a controversial character. The subject of the sanitary conditions of nearly 100,000 square miles of valuable territory (to be presently added to Her Majesty's dominions) is of so much intrinsic interest and importance that it must negative the idea of any such intention; and it is, of course, indispensable, in respect of the future settlement of the country, that definite views should, if possible, be formed both for administrative and politico-economical reasons.

2. The explanation of my obtaining the returns herewith (*Appendix I.*) was noted by me under date 13th January 1886, viz.:—

"The history of my getting the detailed returns of teachers and their deaths is as follows:—Before the late Special Commissioner*

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* Major-General Sir P. H. Scratchley, R.E., K.C.M.G.

left Port Moresby for his first cruise to the eastward, I suggested to him the propriety of erecting a simple monument to the memory of the teachers who had lost their lives in the service of the mission before the proclamation of Her Majesty's Protectorate; and that the tribute should be made at the expense of the Government. It would have been both a deserved memorial to those who had lost their lives in a worthy cause and, to a certain extent, a recognition of the assistance which has been freely given to the officers of Her Majesty's Civil and Naval Services in this territory by the local mission.

"The present cemetery in Port Moresby (a small one) is full of the graves of mission teachers and their wives; nor is there any (not the commonest) kind of headstone or board to mark their several graves. For this reason (and the site of the cemetery being in the natural line of a street running parallel with the beach road) his Excellency proposed to close it as a burial ground at once, and enclose and turf it as a public square instead, at a moderate cost, placing the teachers' monument within the square. This latter was to carry the simplest and briefest inscription of the name of each teacher, and the date of his death, and that of his wife."

My allusion to an obelisk in the annexed copy of my letter (*Appendix II.*) to the Rev. Mr. Lawes will thus be understood as referring to a proposed memorial monument to the several teachers who had lost their lives in British New Guinea. The late Sir Peter Scratchley had fully approved of the idea; but in some measure, owing to his premature death, the matter has not been pursued.

3. From the annexed returns it would appear that out of a total number of 187 Polynesians of both sexes, introduced from the Savage Islands, Loyalty Islands, &c., 90 succumbed to disease or the hostility of the natives. Of the latter 12 are stated to have been so massacred. Allowing also a necessary and reasonable per-centage of deaths from constitutional or causes other than those peculiar to the climate, it will be seen that between 50 and 60 deaths only can be imputed to local malefic conditions—even taking the latest figures quoted by the Queensland Press (*Brisbane Courier*, 28th June 1888), from a recent lecture of the Rev. Mr. Lawes in Brisbane, at 201 South Sea Islanders introduced, of whom 103 have died in 15 years. If due consideration be given to the above points it follows that not more than 70 persons have died from strictly local causes in 17 * (not 15) years.

4. The mortality to be accepted, however, is, no doubt, great, but may be found somewhat exceptional. Within the past 20 years, in which the coasts of British New Guinea have become gradually more frequented by missionaries and their agents, traders and their associates, crews of Her Majesty's ships, collectors and

* July 1871 to July 1888.

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explorers, officials and miscellaneous visitors, &c,, there is not only *no* startling loss of life discoverable, but, regarding the comparatively primitive "environment," there are notably few cases of fatal illness* except in the mission teachers' families.

Taking the European missionaries associated with British New Guinea up to date, they will be found to number 20 persons (14 missionaries and six wives), as stated in an appended list. (Enclosure X.)

The only death in this group that has, I believe, been attributed to fever is that of the Rev. Mr. Sharpe, who died in Cooktown not many months after he joined the New Guinea Mission in 1885. Of the three senior missionaries (Messrs. McFarlane, Lawes, and Chambers) resident for so long in British New Guinea, I may say that it would be difficult to select, in the healthiest temperate climate, men apparently enjoying better health and vitality, or more capable of active, mental, and physical efforts. Probably all these gentlemen specified suffered from malarial or other fevers of severe types at one time or another, but this is natural in a new tropical country. It is more remarkable that their local death-roll only includes one name, and that traces of the "ravages of climate" are not more observable.

5. With regard to the traders, bêche-de-mer fishers, visitors,† &c., in the time under review, the deaths are almost *nil*, nor am I aware of any constitutions "broken down" by residence in British New Guinea. A sufficient number have worked in those waters for some years past to show that the climate need not yet be considered any worse than that of North Queensland.

Of the mining parties which prospected the country inland from Port Moresby in 1878 and 1879, amounting to about 100 persons, only five or six at most died from actual fever; yet they were subjected to exceptionally severe privations for want of proper food and medicines, and exposed in many instances to the trying effects of the rainy and most unhealthy season.

A mail steamer ran between Thursday Island, Port Moresby, and Samarai, from July 1886 to June of this year, and on 24 trips took over several tourists, besides those allowed passages in the Government vessel. None of these have died, though some may have contracted temporary fevers.

Officials quartered at Samarai (the east end), Motu Motu (at the head of the Gulf of Papua), and at Port Moresby, with Government employés, imported carpenters, boatmen, members of a survey party, &c., have fortunately no deaths to record in their ranks, except the sad case of the first Special Commissioner. Whether his were a clear case of virulent fever or no may, however, be questioned, but it is certainly true that few officers have escaped slight attacks during the currency of the Protectorate.

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* Massacres by natives have, of course, no connexion with the subject.

† The numbers can be approximately obtained from the shipping returns in the "Queensland Annual Statistical Register."

Of exploring parties the same truths may be stated, and I find on reference to a return * from the Secretary of the Cook District Hospital (whose prompt courtesy in the matter I have much pleasure in acknowledging), that out of 28 admissions from British New Guinea from 1883 to the end of last year, 16 are described as fever, 5 of which were malarial fever. Of those 28 persons, only 1 died of the latter disorder.

The reports of the proceedings of H.M.'s ships visiting, patrolling, or surveying in British New Guinea waters show nothing exceptionally dangerous as to climatic effects, so far as I am aware. The crews of the survey ships "Lark" and "Dart" had a share of fever in 1886, and there were one or two fatal cases; but considering the numbers engaged, the exceptional season, &c., there was no reason for inferring special risk to life from their experience. It is to be regretted that I cannot add a list of the several voyages made by these vessels in Protectorate waters. I have made an imperfect list of over 20 names that have been on the coast generally (if not always) during the dry season; but the actual number of visits is much higher.

The Order of the Sacred Heart established a Catholic Mission at Yule Island in June 1885. It has been maintained for three years without any deaths having occurred I believe – none, at any rate, have come to my knowledge, though the little community now numbers about 10 Europeans of both sexes. I can personally testify also to the undesirable exposure and strenuous physical exertions of the two devoted pioneers of the mission, Fathers Verjus and Coupé, and that they endured severe attacks of fever during their earliest residence, and difficulties in planting the mission in 1885.

6. One of the most noteworthy points in the history of alien communication with British New Guinea is that Malays, Polynesians, &c. employed in vessels and otherwise on the coast, even when brought from the same islands as the mission teachers, do not show any extraordinary mortality. A remarkable instance of this occurs in respect of a cedar-cutting party. The position of the timber camp, selected by Mr. Clayton F. Page (a gentleman of well-known experience in North Queensland cedar forest), is on an arm of Galley Reach, an estuary of Redscar Bay. It lies behind the village of Manu Manu, the scene of one of the first mission stations in British New Guinea—very properly abandoned as such owing to its unhealthy surroundings. A mass of mangroves and brackish creeks intervene between Manu Manu and the original camp built by a fresh stream emptying into a tidal inlet, where fœtid muddy banks uncover with the ebb-tide. Thick scrub (forest lands with undergrowth close enough to check the free circulation of air) surrounded the damp spot. I visited it in 1885, and thought it one of the most pestilential-looking places I had ever seen in the tropics. Amongst the men, from

* Not printed.

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12 to 15 were natives from the Loyalty Islands, the Savage (Nieué) Islands, &c., from whence teachers have generally been introduced. This force was at work for three years, from 1884 to 1887. They suffered, as might fully have been expected, badly at times from fever, but Mr. Page possessed some knowledge of medicine, and was liberal in respect of rations, as well as careful about their quality. When the men were much prostrated from malaria they were sent to Port Moresby to recruit, and I never heard that there was a fatal case amongst them.

7. In contemplation of the preceding facts the conclusion is irresistible that there must be some special features in the lives of the teachers or defects in the system for their care and control which have operated prejudicially. It is much to have narrowed the question to this point, and the above inference is greatly confirmed by the impressions of impartial witnesses, such as Captain Moresby, R.N., and others which appeared in print during the past history of British New Guinea, and are given in the Appendix. (Enclosures IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., and IX.) The persistent statements as to its extreme unhealthiness are, therefore, practically baseless, and it is not necessary to dwell further on the subject. Indeed, I should not have treated it so exhaustively had not they been emphatically made from time to time. In an article, for instance, by the Rev. W. G. Lawes, entitled "The Effect of the "Climate of New Guinea upon Exotic Races," published in the "Australasian Medical Gazette" of May 1887, the same pessimistic view of the "utter unhealthiness" of the climate is elaborated. A copy of this is appended. (Enclosure XI.)

I have no desire to seem antagonistic to Mr. Lawes's views, but cannot allow one statement to pass unnoticed. He says: "Only "five ladies have attempted to live in British New Guinea. Of "these, two died and the third is just leaving—now so reduced by "fever that her only hope of life is in getting away. I have just "heard of the death of the Baroness von Schleinitz in German "New Guinea."

I presume that the above two deaths are those of Mrs. W. G. Turner and Mrs. Chalmers. The first died at Murray Island (in Queensland waters), and I have always clearly understood *not* from climatic causes. Mrs. Chalmers died in Sydney, also, I have heard, from ailments unconnected with local influences. If, however, Murray Island be included in British New Guinea (as in many respects is desirable) then *nine* ladies have lived in British New Guinea *none* of whom have died from their sojourn there. Three ladies not connected with the mission —Mrs. H. O. Forbes, Mrs. I. de Racoe, and Mrs. E. G. Edelfelt—have all lived for months together in the Protectorate, and are alive and well. The first was at the east end of New Guinea—a less healthy region, probably, than Port Moresby; the second lived at the latter point, and the third for more than a year at the head of the Papuan Gulf, in a low situation, which I should consider decidedly unhealthy. She suffered, in common with the other ladies, more

or less severely from fever at times, and I suppose this is the case cited by Mr Lawes as so critical. This lady returned subsequently, however, and is now quite well. The others have left the Protectorate, but are also well.

The Baroness von Schleinitz died of aggravated bronchitis (to attacks of which she had been subject in Europe), and I have been told on good authority that probably over exertion at Finschafen, on account of certain hospitable preparations for Christmas or New Year entertainments of the local officials, intensified the malady to a fatal degree.

8. Since writing the previous paragraph relating to the miners' parties of 1878 and 1879, I have held some conversation with one of the number—Mr. Trotter, senior, of Cooktown. He knew of not less than 60 members of these parties from the "Economist" and "Colonist" vessels, &c., and assures me that not more than three persons died from the distinct effects of fever in British New Guinea. Many, if not all, suffered, but of those admitted to the local hospital none died, and the only other deaths were one from drowning, and one apparently from sunstroke.

Cooktown, 27th July 1888. A. MUSGRAVE, Jun.

Enclosure I.

Returns of London Missionary Society's Teachers associated with British New Guinea.

Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Josaia - -	Loyalty Islands -	July 1871 - - -	Alive at Darnley Island.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	„ „
Siwene - -	„ -	„ - - -	Returned to Maré.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	„ „
Kerisiano -	„ -	„ - - -	Died on Mabuiag.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	Widow returned to Maré.
Mataika - -	„ -	„ - - -	Returned to Loyalty Islands
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	Died Dinner Island.
Gucheng - -	„ -	„ - - -	Died on Fly River.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	„ Mabuiag.
Tepeso - -	„ -	„ - - -	„ Warrior Island
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	„ Darnley „
Jerry (Katehuma) - -	„ -	„ - - -	Died at Teste Island.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	Returned to Lifu.
Tom (Isahun) -	„ -	„ - - -	Died on Dinner Island.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	„ „
Elia - -	„ -	„ - - -	Returned to Lifu.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	Died on Saibai Island.
Waunaea -	„ -	„ - - -	Died in China Straits.
Wife - -	„ -	„ - - -	Widow returned to Maré.
Peri - -	Rarotonga -	Oct. 1872, Boera - -	Alive at location.
Wife - -	„ -	„ „ - -	„ „
Rau - -	Aitutaki - -	„ Port Moresby	Returned.
Wife - -	„ - -	„ „ -	Died soon after arrival.
Anederea -	Rarotonga - -	„ Kerepuna -	Killed at Kalo, 1881.
Wife - -	„ - -	„ „ -	Died at Port Moresby.
Ruatoka - -	„ - -	„ Port Moresby	Alive at location.
Wife - -	„ - -	„ „ -	„ „
Adamu - -	Manihiki - -	„ Manu-Manu -	Died at station.
Wife - -	„ - -	„ „ -	„ „
Eneri - -	„ - -	„ Port Moresby	Died, 1875.
Wife - -	„ - -	„ „ -	„ 1873.
Saneish - -	Loyalty Islands -	„ „ -	Returned to Maré
Wife - -	„ -	„ „ -	„ „
Gutacene -	- - -	- - - -	„ „
Wife - -	- - -	- - - -	„ „

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Wanegi	-	-	Died.
Wife	-	-	Married to "Dick."
Locat	-	-	Died at Tauan Island.
Wife	-	-	Widow married Gucheng.
Pethin	Loyalty Islands	Oct. 1872	Returned to Uvea.
Wife	"	"	Died at Darnley Island.
Cho	"	"	Killed at Bampton Island.
Wife	"	"	" "
Mataio	"	"	" "
Wife	"	"	" "
Murray, Rev. A. W.	-	11 Oct. 1872	Resided at Somerset until Nov. 1874, when he left with Mrs. Murray for Sydney.
McFarlane, Rev. S.	-	23 July 1874	Left Mission, Dec. 1885.
McFarlane, Mrs.	-	2 Nov. 1874, Murray Island	" " 1884.
Lawes, Rev. W. G.	-	20 Oct. 1874.	
Lawes, Mrs.	-	Port Moresby.	
Tupugalei	Niué	Nov. 1874	Died, 1875.
Wife	Savage Island	Lea Lea	Returned.
Seaosi	"	"	"
Wife	"	Baruné	"
Isaako	"	"	Still at Station.
Wife	"	Pari	"
Talima	Niué	"	Died, 1876.
Wife	Savage Island	Tatana	Returned, 1876.
Viliami	Niué	Nov. 1874, Pari	Died, 1880.
Wife	Savage Island	" "	Returned, 1882.
Reubena	Manihiki	" "	Died, 1875.
Wife	"	-	Returned, 1876.
Motu	Mangaia	Nov. 1874, Pari	Died, 1875.
Wife	"	" "	Re-married to Anederea, and killed at Kalo, 1881.
Peka	"	" "	Died, 1875.
Wife	"	" "	Returned, 1876.
Moana	Rarotonga	" "	Died, 1875.
Wife	"	" "	"
Tavini	"	" "	Returned, 1876.
Wife	"	Boribada	" "
Toria	Mangaia	"	Died, 1875.
Wife	"	"	Returned, 1876.
Turner, Rev. W. G., M.D.	-	-	Returned, Nov. 187 .
Turner, Mrs.	-	March 1876	*Died at Somerset, Nov. 1876.
Peni	-	Oct. 1876	Died.
Wife	-	"	"
Sekarai	-	"	" 1876.
Wife	-	Boribada	" "
Materua	Mangaia	Oct. 1876, Kalo	Killed, 1881.
Wife	"	" "	"
Asafo	-	" Lea Lea	Died, 1876.
Wife	-	" "	Widow married Mata.
Taria	Aitutaki	" Hula	Killed, 1881.
Wife	"	" "	Died, Suou, 1884.
Gativaro	-	" "	"
Wife	-	" "	Died, 1876. "
Tamarua	-	" South Cape	"
Wife	-	" "	" 1882.
Pi	Rarotonga	" "	Alive at Station.
Wife	"	" "	Died.
Reboamo	Savage Islands	" Kaile	Living at Station.
Wife	"	" "	Died, 1877.
Napota	"	" Tupuselei	" 1882.
Wife	"	" "	Returned, 1884.
Ioane	"	" Kapa Kape	Living at Station.
Wife	"	" "	" "
Chalmers, Rev. J.	-	21 Oct. 1877	
" Mrs.	-	"	†Died at Sydney, 20 Feb. 1879.
Toakinga	Rarotonga	Nov. 1878	Died.
Wife	"	"	Re-married and left Mission.
Mataio	"	" South Cape	Died, 1884.
Wife	"	" "	"
Jakoba	Manihiki	" Koiari	Left, 1883.
Wife	"	" "	Died.
Tipoki	-	" Maiva	Still in L.M.S. (?)
Wife	-	" "	Died at Aroma.
Teineoré	Society Islands	" Aroma	Still at Station.
Wife	"	" "	" "

* This was not a case of fever. † Did not die of fever.

Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Matina	Rurutu	Nov. 1878, Aroma	Died, 1884.
Wife	"	" "	Returned.
Matatuhi	-	" Koiari	Killed, Kalo, 1881.
Wife	-	" "	Died.
Taatae	Raiatea	" Aroma	"
Wife	"	" "	"
Marearé	"	" "	"
Wife	"	" "	"
Zekaria	Rarotonga	" "	"
Wife	"	" "	"
Maka	"	" Maiva	Alive in British New Guinea.
Wife	British New Guinea	" "	" " "
Tofolia	Savage Islands	" Isu Isu	Died, 1879.
Wife	"	" "	"
Palahitogia	"	" "	"
Wife	"	" "	"
			(Above 4 persons supposed to be poisoned by natives.)
Falailé	"	" Bapaka	Died, 1879.
Wife	"	" "	"
Iatafa	"	- - -	Died.
Wife	"	- - -	Re-married to Rebanno.
Ipuneso	Loyalty Islands	Nov. 1878 -	Returned to Lifu.
Wife	"	" -	" "
Warewen	"	" -	Died in China Straits.
Wife	"	" -	Widow married Dien.
Kaica	"	" -	Died in China Straits.
Wife	"	" -	" "
Imamin	"	" -	" "
Wife	"	" -	Widow returned to Lifu.
Opan	"	" -	Dead.
Wife	"	- - -	"
Haxen	"	Nov. 1878 -	Alive at Mabuiag.
Wife	"	- - -	" "
Beswick, Rev. T.	-	7 Jan. 1879 -	Left Mission, 1881. Re-appointed and died on return voyage.
Scott, Rev. Tait	-	1880, Murray Island	Returned to England, 1882.
Tua	Rarotonga	April 1882, Maiva	Died, 1882.
Wife	Atiu	" "	Re-married to Sunia.
Pakia	Rarotonga	" "	Died, 1885.
Wife	-	" "	Still in British New Guinea.
Heneré	Aitutaki	" Delena	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "
Tekovi	-	" "	Died, 1882.
Wife	-	" "	Re-married to Tipoki.
Itama	Maniluki	" Hula	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife	"	" "	" "
Terai	Taluti	" Aroma	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "
Maru	Rurutu	" Kerepuna	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "
Mama	Raiatea	" Aroma	" "
Wife	"	" "	Died.
Wenoewo	Loyalty Islands	" "	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife	"	" "	Died, Murray Island.
Wacene	"	- - -	At Kewai Island.
Wife	"	- - -	" "
Jakobo	"	- - -	At Saibai Island.
Wife	"	- - -	" "
Dien	"	- - -	At Killertow Island.
Wife	"	- - -	Dead.
Ridgley, M.D., Rev. T.	-	17 April 1882 -	Left Mission, 3rd June 1882.
Scott, Rev. Harry	-	Dec. 1883 -	Still in British New Guinea.
" Mrs.	-	" -	" "
Sumeo	Samoa	Feb. 1884, Kabadi	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "
Timoteo	"	" "	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "
Sunia	Vavau	" Tupeselei	" "
Wife	"	" "	Died.
Tau	Rarotonga	" Kalo	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife	"	" "	" "
Tauraki	Manihiki	Feb. 1884, Motu-Motu	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "
Esekiela	"	" "	Died, 1884.
Wife	"	- - -	"
Amaarua	Raiatea	Feb. 1884, Motu-Motu	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife	"	- - -	" "
Tuaana	"	Feb. 1884, Motu-Motu	Died, 1884.
Wife	"	" Kivori	Still in British New Guinea.
Tabutu	"	" Aroma	" "
Wife	"	" "	" "

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Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Nun - -	Raiatea - -	Feb. 1884, Aroma -	Died.
Wife - -	„ - -	- - -	Re-married to Mama.
Salamo - -	Savage Islands -	Feb. 1884, Saroa -	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife - -	„ -	„ „ -	Died, 1884.
Lika Lika -	„ -	„ Rigo - -	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife - -	„ -	„ „ - -	„ „
Tima - -	Aitutiki - -	„ Naara -	„ „
Wife - -	- - -	„ „ -	„ „
Dick (Kiaki) -	Loyalty Islands -	„ „ -	Married Wanegi's widow.
Jimmy (Whalu)	„ -	„ „ -	Still in British New Guinea.
Wife - -	„ -	- - - -	„ „
Joe Brown (Inahua) -	„ -	1884 - - -	„ „
Wife - -	- - -	- - - -	„ „

Port Moresby, British New Guinea,
January 1886.

N.B.—The preceding list of London Missionary Society's teachers and wives, who have been associated with British New Guinea from the earliest date of mission effort, was copied by me from a record book kindly lent by the Rev. Mr. Lawes, on the 6th January 1886, and a list of the Loyalty Island teachers subsequently obtained from Murray Island at my request.

The returns, therefore, should be complete to the close of 1885, and give all important information now at my disposal. To show that I endeavoured to secure the best possible precision in the returns, I annex copy of a note written by me to Mr. Lawes at that time.

Another importation of teachers took place in 1886, and in a brief memorandum of mine early in 1887 the deaths of two more teachers, six wives of teachers, and three children are noted. Having, however, been absent from Port Moresby for more than a year, and not being able now to communicate with that point, I regret that the additional returns for two and a half years, up to date, will have to be printed hereafter.

A. MUSGRAVE, Jun.

Cooktown, 20th July 1888.

Enclosure II.

Government Bungalow,
13th January 1886.

DEAR MR. LAWES,

I RETURN the book containing the data concerning your mission teachers with my best thanks. It has evidently given you some trouble to compile, and is a melancholy record. I therefore the more regret trespassing upon you with another question or two.

In the return of the introduction of teachers you refer to Ipuneso and wife and five other Loyalty Island teachers, &c., but without stating the date of their arrival or subsequent disposition.

I presume, however, they came here according to the order otherwise adopted in 1882.

In the event, also, of the erection of the obelisk of which we have before spoken, it would not merely be a memento of the earliest local Christian effort, but be an historical record as well, and its inscription should be as accurate as we can possibly make it. If, therefore, you could give me the information required, I should be exceedingly obliged, and the return would be absolutely complete.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) A. MUSGRAVE, Jun.

The Rev. W. G. Lawes.

P.S.—I accordingly send a list of the queries to which replies seem to be desirable.

Enclosure III.

Extract from Letter by the Rev. S. McFarlane of the 11th July 1875 (?) to the Editor of the "Times."

(Treats of proposed scheme of colonising Yule Island by certain persons in New South Wales.)

* * * * * *

There is one product of the country not mentioned by the immigrants, but which they are likely to get before any of the others, viz., fever.

We have not yet found any part of the coast or any island in Torres Straits free from the dangerous malady, Cape York and Port Moresby not excepted. Our Polynesian teachers and their families have been sadly reduced; they cannot stand the climate as well as Europeans. Although our mission is still young, we have lost no less than 21 of our number, 17 by the diseases of the climate, and four by the clubs of the savages. These are facts which it may be well for those proposing to emigrate to New Guinea to consider. It is true that a few of the 17 had diseases in their system which this climate rapidly developed and brought to a fatal termination. Humanly speaking, they would have lived longer in their own country. *Vide* page 312, "Discoveries in New Guinea," by Captain John Moresby, R.N.

Enclosure IV.

Comment by Captain John Moresby, R.N., on preceding Extract.

* * * * * *

Mr. McFarlane descants on the unhealthiness of New Guinea, and supports his opinion by making a statement as to the mortality of the native Christian Polynesian teachers employed by the

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London Missionary Society in New Guinea, but he instances no case of a white man suffering from climatic causes.

It has already been seen that Mr. McFarlane, except at Port Moresby (which the missionaries have publicly announced to be a healthy locality), has no knowledge of the high and healthy parts of New Guinea, which are alone fitted for the white man's occupation; but his facts are so striking that I would fain direct his attention to some of their causes. I am satisfied, from the evidence which came under my own eyes, as I think he will be on consideration, that influences other than climatic arrayed themselves against the lives of these poor creatures.

During the first four years which passed after the native teachers were established in New Guinea, they were unwisely scattered at stations in Torres Straits and Redscar Bay, whilst the agent of the London Missionary Society residing at Cape York (Somerset) had no adequate means of visiting and supplying them with necessary food. The teachers and their families were left unguided and unprovided amongst savages who refused to supply them with food gratis, and in a country whose produce was different from their native islands. The result was that when, in 1872–3, the "Basilisk" visited these poor creatures, she found them in such a deplorable state from want of sufficient food and medicines that several had died, and others were only saved by being brought on board and given nourishing food and proper medicines. These facts, together with the opinion of the surgeon of the "Basilisk," were officially reported by me to the agent of the London Missionary Society at the time. By the possession of the "Ellengowan" missionary steamer the mission is now placed on a more satisfactory footing, and it is probable that we shall henceforth cease to hear of so heavy a death rate amongst the native teachers, even in the unhealthy parts, where they have, in my opinion, been most unwisely settled. It should also be remembered that these native teachers came from various South Sea Islands, more than a thousand miles distant, where all the conditions of their lives were different.

The general health of the men of the "Basilisk's" ship's company during the eight months spent in New Guinea, when they were exposed to all the vicissitudes of climate, in open boats, on detached service up rivers, on shore work, surveying, visiting natives, and cutting 700 tons of firewood for steaming purposes, was exceptionally good. The men occasionally suffered from boils, caused by a scarcity of fresh provisions; and whilst on the *north** coast of New Guinea a low fever prevailed among us for a time, but it was of a mild type, soon passing over, and leaving no bad effects.—*Vide* page 316, *idem.*

* The italics are Captain Moresby's.

Enclosure V.

Extract from Report of Mr. Henry M. Chester, dated 27th August 1878, at Stacey Island, South Cape.

(*Vide* Parliamentary Papers, N.G. C. 3617, page 79.)

* * * * * *

It is melancholy to think of the number of good men who have been sacrificed since the commencement of the New Guinea Mission. These poor fellows were brought from their pleasant island homes in a delightful climate, dropped here and there along an unhealthy coast, and left to their fate until it was convenient for the "Ellengowan" to visit them. If the place proved healthy, well and good; if otherwise, their places were supplied with fresh arrivals. Their pay is 15*l.** a year, out of which they have to feed and clothe themselves, build houses, and buy land to cultivate. In an unhealthy climate like this, men require something more than cocoa-nuts to sustain life, and these teachers ought to be supplied with meat, flour, tea, and sugar. They are the true heroes of the mission, but at the May meetings at Exeter Hall who hears their names?

Enclosure VI.

An interesting leading article, entitled "Mission Work in New Guinea," will be found in the "Queenslander" of the 16th August 1879. It treats of a letter from the Rev. S. McFarlane on the same subject (under the same date), and holds that the sacrifice of life, even to that time, nine years ago, had been so serious that radical changes should be made by which Papuan would be substituted for Polynesian teachers. The letter and article deserve reference, but are too long to reprint in this connexion.

Enclosure VII.

Extract from Letter from "Wanderer," in the "Queenslander," 8th November 1879.

* * * * * *

I cannot close this without referring to a letter signed S. McFarlane, which appears in your issue of 16th August. Were it not that I am naturally expected to give you all information coming within my "ken," especially any pertaining to such an important matter as the Christianising, and consequent civilising, of the New Guinea inhabitants, I should sincerely like to suppress these remarks, on the "working of the gospel," as it is called, in

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* Now 20*l.* per annum.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

these heathen lands. I say this because I have been the guest of the missionaries on more than one occasion, and I have many reasons to remember their kindnesses. Messrs. Chalmers, Beswick, and the writer of that letter, I both admire and respect for fulfilling the duties in the state of life which they have chosen fearlessly and to the best of their abilities, with the means at their command, and I shall be very sorry if the remarks I feel bound to make on this subject are considered by them to be inimical to their labours; but I am thoroughly convinced that they will give me credit for not being actuated by any other than disinterested motives.

In a former letter I said I did not think the game was worth he candle, when that represented human life—and I say now that I have, after seeing and interviewing nearly all the missionaries in this part of the world, found nothing to alter my opinion. Mr. McFarlane, after alluding to the unhealthiness of Port Moresby, and the consequent formation of stations at the south-east end of the Peninsula, remarks :—

"It has been said that our native agents are not properly provided for. The value of a statement depends a good deal upon the person who makes it. *Who* knows the teachers better than we do, who have lived with most of them since they were children, and trained them for their work? And who are so likely to have their best interests at heart as those who have devoted their lives to their elevation and usefulness? If our teachers are good and deserving, no thanks to some of their white admirers with whom they have associated."

In regard to the first sentence, I must say that my experience is that the teachers are not properly provided for, although I freely admit that I do not take all the statements which these coloured teachers make for gospel; indeed I know, despite their teaching, that the majority of them are untruthful, and this the missionaries have admitted is the case. When I was at Teste Island there were three teachers down with fever, and of my own knowledge I know that they had no medicine, and that they had not been visited for months. At Dinner Island the teacher complained of his wife and children being sick, having no medicine, and no food but what the island produced. At Leocadie, man and wife both sick, no medicine, and complaining of a scarcity of food. At Suo or South Cape, where Mr. Chalmers was then residing, both the missionary and his wife seemed happy and contented. At Kerepuna, although the "Ellengowan" had shortly before been there, the teacher complained of having no medicine, and also said that he had on plenty of occasions, when there was a bad season, been short of provisions. Mr. Andrew Goldie endorsed this statement, and told me that he had often carried yams from further up the coast to supply this man with food. While at Kerepuna I saw a man who was stationed at Aloma, but had travelled down to Kerepuna to be near his countryman, who looked to me to be dying. He was a perfect skeleton, and he both moved and breathed with difficulty. He also said he had no medicine,

and was supplied by Captain de Hoghton with quinine properly mixed. At Kemp Welsh, the missionary's wife and child were very ill; the man and woman both complained of being without medicine and of having insufficient food. Another man "Isaako," stationed close to Port Moresby, came on board whilst we were at anchor outside the port, bringing with him numerous curios which he wished to trade for medicine. The man, whom the Government presented with a rifle for his kindness to sick diggers, had, when first placed at Port Moresby, to shoot his dinner before eating it, and the inside of the banana plants was the only vegetable he had with his kangaroo for months, and that he had to pay dearly for. "The value of a statement depends a good deal upon the person who makes it," says Mr. McFarlane. These statements emanate from the men themselves: and as they are the men whose virtues and usefulness Mr. McFarlane extols so much, they surely must be worth some credence.

* * * * * *

According to Mr. McFarlane the missionaries have been on the island for six months. Can he point to one convert, or show, beyond the establishment of a number of stations, and the death of a lot of half civilised teachers, anything for the money expended?

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Extract from Letter from the Rev. J. Chalmers.

(*Vide* "Queenslander," 3rd January 1880.)

After reviewing the statements of "Wanderer" *seriatim*, and denying them, Mr. Chalmers writes:—

* * * * * *

I fearlessly reiterate that during the last 27 months no teacher can complain of being left without food or medicine. I have been connected with the mission work for a number of years, and I give it as my experience that our New Guinea teachers are overpaid and treated too much as if they could not take care of themselves.

* * * * * *

We cannot speak of "converts," but we can say the teachers' influence has been widely felt, and we are willing to work on patiently.*

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* The rest of the letter is too long to reprint.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Enclosure VIII.

Extract from Letter from Captain Pennefather of Queensland Government Schooner "Pearl."

(*Vide* "Queenslander," 1st May 1880.)

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On Friday, 5th March, got under way, and made sail for Bampton Island.

* * * * * *

Landed with armed boat's crew, accompanied by Messrs. Bowme and N. Chester; inquired into the death of the two native teachers and their wives reported to have been murdered by these islanders. The natives denied the murder, saying that the teachers had been left on the island for months without provisions or medicine; that they (the natives) supplied them with yams, cocoa-nuts, &c.; that the teachers took ill with fever and after a time died, and their wives shortly after, also from fever; and that they did all they could for them. This was told me by one of the natives, who had been, according to his account, to Sydney in some ship, and who spoke very good English. He argued that they could have gained nothing by killing them, as they were anxious to keep friendly with the white men, as they wished to obtain knives, tomahawks, and calico from them. They also told me that a large vessel had been some time ago ashore on the reef surrounding their island, and that they had assisted the crew to jettison the cargo (flour), when she got off and proceeded on her voyage. These people are superior in physique and intelligence to those of Kiwai, but the island has every appearance of being fever stricken, being low and swampy.

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Enclosure IX.

MR. ANDREW GOLDIE to MR. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MUSGRAVE.

DEAR SIR, Port Moresby, January 13, 1886.

I forward to you extracts of old letters that appeared in the "Colonial Press"—one of the letters by Mr. Chalmers in reply to "Wanderer." I may state I was in Sydney when this letter was published. I dined on board the "Beagle" in Sydney. Captain de Hoghton had Mr. Chalmers' letter on the table before him. He was most indignant when he read it. He requested me to answer it, and to use his name that what "Wanderer" wrote regarding the teachers was perfectly true and were facts indisputable.

I did not answer the letter. I was going back to New Guinea, and did not wish to be further wrangling and writing on mission work.* I had learned to look upon their Press correspondence with scorn and contempt—so much so that I have scarcely patience to read a missionary's letter through. The years that have passed since have only added to the feeling I then had.

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Enclosure IX.

European Missionaries associated with British New Guinea from 1871 *to July* 1888.

1.	Rev. A. W. Murray.	8.	Rev. Tait Scott.
2.	„ W. Wyatt Gill.	9.	„ T. Ridgley.
3.	„ W. G. Lawes and Mrs.	10.	„ Harry Scott and Mrs.
4.	„ S. McFarlane and „	11.	„ — Savage.
5.	„ W. G. Turner and „	12.	„ — Sharpe.
6.	„ J. Chalmers and „	13.	„ Geo. Pratt.
7.	„ T. Beswick.	14.	„ — Pearce and Mrs.

Enclosure X.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "AUSTRALASIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE" (REV. W. G. LAWES), MAY 1887.

The Effect of the Climate of New Guinea upon Exotic Races.

In all that has been said and written about New Guinea during the last few years, scarcely any attention has been paid to its climate, and yet it is a subject of the first importance in considering the many schemes and proposals suggested for its colonisation by a European race. The country may be rich and its resources great, but is its climate such that the white race can live there and make it a home?

The belief has been growing in my mind for a long time that New Guinea is entirely unfitted to be the home of the Anglo-Saxon, and this belief is strengthened every year. I settled here at Port Moresby in 1874, and, with the exception of a visit to England (1878–80), have been resident ever since. One round of seasons may be exceptional and misleading, but a decade of seasons is amply sufficient to show what the climate really is. I have had, during the whole time, a large number of South Sea Islanders under my care, and have had almost the sole medical care of the mission.

The entire number of South Sea Islanders who have been here since the beginning of the mission in 1872 is 201. Of these 103

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* Mr. Goldie alludes to certain former letters of his printed in the Sydney Press.

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have died, including eight who were killed. It must be remembered that these were all men and women in the prime of life, between 25 and 40 years of age. They were also picked men, none being accepted for New Guinea service who had any physical weakness or disease. The 201 might reasonably have been expected in their own homes to have lived to a good old age, and yet in New Guinea 95 have died. Most of them died within two or three years of their arrival. They were all from tropical islands, such as Rarotonga, Tahiti, Savage Island, Lifu, and Maré. During the early years of the mission, when we were all alike ignorant of the climate, and the best means of preventing or treating the fever, some deaths may have occurred which were preventable. But the fact remains that with all the care and attention which the experience of those years has taught us there is no sensible diminution of the death rate. The immediate cause of death has not always been fever—there has been some cases of phthisis, and some women have died in childbirth, and some cases have been obscure and difficult to diagnose ; but I do not think there is one out of the 201 who escaped fever.

All the above were coloured men—Polynesians and Melanesians. How has the white race fared on New Guinea during the same period ? The white immigrants have been almost entirely men, and most of them visitors rather than residents. Only five ladies have attempted to live on British New Guinea. Of these two died, and the third is just leaving—now so reduced by fever that her only hope of life is in getting away. I have just heard of the death of the Baroness von Schleinitz, in German New Guinea. She passed through Cooktown with her husband about a year ago full of health and vigour. The largest number of white men who have been in New Guinea at one time were the diggers in 1877. Of these several died, and the whole party were so stricken with fever that they were only anxious to get away with their lives. Of the scientists and other visitors who have been to New Guinea, almost all have suffered from fever. D'Albertis and party at Yule Island, and up the Fly River, had an experience with which almost every traveller in New Guinea is only too familiar. The deaths have not been numerous, but in most cases the patient has had an opportunity of leaving, and he has gladly taken it. From all the white men I have known to come to New Guinea since 1874, I can only say it has been the exception for anyone to be here a few weeks without getting fever, and the exceptions have been very, very few. The decimation of Sir Peter Scratchley's party on the "Governor Blackall" is a fair illustration of what has befallen most parties of travellers or visitors in New Guinea.

No part of New Guinea that we are acquainted with is free from fever. Inland and on the coast, on high ground and low, on the mainland, and on small outlying islands, there seems no escape from malaria. Port Moresby—or, as it is now to be called, Granville —is perhaps as healthy as any place we know, and that is not saying much. Men have been here in Government employ since the pro-

clamation of the Protectorate who have been living for years in North Queensland, and who pooh-poohed the idea of fever, but in a few weeks they have been down with it. Working on the best site, and sheltered from the sun, with no swamp or miasma near, they have succumbed and gone down like nine-pins. Captain Musgrave, the Deputy Commissioner here, is one of the few who have escaped fever, but then he is away on furlough three months in the year—an impossibility to those who come to New Guinea to make a living.

The fever may be called the "New Guinea fever," for while it has much in common with other malarial fevers there are some characteristics which distinguish it as endemic to New Guinea. It assumes different forms. We have the simple intermittent fever and ague. This, though often very severe, is the most tractable and the most amenable to treatment. The more pronounced the cold stage, the more regular are the others, and the more thorough the recovery in the interval. A remittent type is very difficult to deal with. In these cases there is no cold stage and no violent symptoms, but a total loss of appetite, great depression, and continual fever. The Rev. Mr. Sharpe, who died in Cooktown from fever contracted here last year, had this remittent fever more than a fortnight before he left for Cooktown. Day after day he seemed just about the same. His temperature in the morning was just over 100 degrees, and in the evening 102 and 103 degrees. He slept well, had no vomiting, but loathed all food, and got gradually weaker. This is a typical case.

But there is another form which seems to partake of the character of both intermittent and remittent. The cold stage is not very marked, the hot stage prolonged, and symptoms very violent; at length the sweating stage comes on, but is soon over, and brings very little relief. Long before the proper time the fever returns, and then it is the same thing over again. In these cases vomiting is often very severe, enormous quantities of pure bile being thrown up.

No age or condition is free. My own infant, who was born here, had his first attack of fever when he was six weeks old, and from that time until his death at 18 months he was constantly the subject of fever and ague. In the case of children especially the spleen becomes very much enlarged. The natives suffer from fever, but the symptoms are not often violent. Dogs undoubtedly have it. One dog we had used to shiver, and go and lie in the sun, and then came the hot stage, with dry burning nose. I don't know whether it ended in sweating; it lasted a few hours, and used to return at regular intervals. Those who become acclimatised are liable to frequent returns of a milder form of fever and ague. I am writing, not only from my observations of those who have been my patients, but from my own personal experience.

I hardly like, as a non-professional, to say anything about treatment. Our resources are very limited. Those who do not know by experience what tinned meats are can scarcely imagine how difficult it is to tempt a fickle appetite or keep up the strength

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of a patient with them. Next to quinine, Liebig's extract of beef is our greatest necessity. And what would we not give for ice, or even cold water? The very large doses of quinine recommended by some practitioners in India have not been a success in my hands. I have found about 15 gr. a day the best quantity with myself and most of my patients. Some, who can never keep down quinine in a liquid form, take it easily in gelatine-covered pills. Arsenic I have found of great service with some, after the recurrence has been broken by quinine. The vomiting almost always yields to hydrocyanic acid. My attention was called last year by Mr. H. O. Forbes to Warburg's fever tincture, and I have tried it with great success. My supply was but limited, but in no case in which I took or administered it did it fail; it has a high reputation in India, and I believe will be as successful in the treatment of New Guinea fever.

There are but few diseases besides fever which need any notice. Ulcers are the most common affliction of the natives. Children almost all have, during some period of childhood, the skin disease known in Eastern Polynesia as *tona*, and which resembles framboesia; these sores, however, often develop into corroding ulcers, from which many infants die. A form of leprosy is endemic in some places in this neighbourhood. In white men the smallest wound becomes a troublesome sore, very difficult to heal.

Syphilis is certainly unknown among the natives. I have always been on the look out for signs of its existence, and it could not possibly have been hidden if any man had been so afflicted. I fear it has been introduced within the last two years at a village about 40 miles from here, but the surprise and disgust of the natives are strong corroborative proof that they were previously unacquainted with it.

Ophthalmia is uncommon. Isolated cases occur, but it is not epidemic, as it often is in the South Sea Islands, nor yet of so virulent a type.

If blight was common, as it is in Queensland, there would be much blindness, for the habits of the people would increase rather than cure it. The proportion of blind to the population is very, very small.

Port Moresby, New Guinea,
19th March 1887.

APPENDIX F.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave was instructed by me, after communication with the sub-collectors of Customs at Thursday Island, Cooktown, and Townsville, to draw up a paper

on the trade of New Guinea—exports and imports. The following paper dealing rather more widely with the resources of New Guinea has been furnished to me.

J. DOUGLAS.

MEMORANDUM.

1. Having lately expressed the opinion that the natural resources of British New Guinea are considerably greater in proportion than those of the valuable West Indian Colony of Jamaica (even relatively to the areas involved*), and that the territory possesses an "early prospective value for Queensland," I hope by the following returns, appended extracts and remarks, to show that these views are not† "unwarrantably sanguine" as has been stated of them. In putting them forward I did not fail to see that they ran directly counter to the growing idea of a "barren heritage," which Queensland has undertaken the responsibility of supporting for the next ten (10) years, and were tolerably sure to be discredited—especially in the face of equally recent adverse opinions on the sanitary condition and value of British New Guinea. As these views have been gradually and carefully formed, however, after some lapse of time and residence, and personal visits to several districts, and are conscientiously held, I could not see any objection to stating them at a moment of political "slack water," so to speak, between the gratifying disappearance of an undeveloping form of administration, and the entrance of a new and necessary one.

2. The comparison drawn between Jamaica when first settled and British Papua is a good deal closer than may at first sight appear to those who have not interested themselves, especially as to the potential wealth, progress, and prosperity of tropical Colonies. Both territories are situated within the tropical belt, and the configuration of both is remarkably similar in many respects. British Papua, like Jamaica, possesses magnificent central ranges, more than lofty enough to give all the zones suitable for tropical products which require considerable altitudes, and an ample rainfall, while other kindred atmospheric conditions, steady and healthful trade-winds, &c., are equally noticeable. "The aboriginal name of "Jamaica was 'Xaymaca,' a word supposed to imply an over-"flowing abundance of rivers. Bridges tells us that the name is "derived from two Indian words,' Chabaüan,' signifying water, and "'Makia,' wood. The compound sound would approach to Chab-"makia, and harmonised to the Spanish ear would be Cha-makia, "corrupted by us to Jamaica, denoting a land covered with wood, "and, therefore, watered by shaded rivulets, or in other words "fertile."‡

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* British New Guinea and its islands probably contain not less than 90,000 square miles. Jamaica has a superficial area of 4,000 odd square miles.

† Brisbane, "Evening Observer," 16th July 1888.

‡ *See* "Handbook of Jamaica," 1887–88, page 25.

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In these respects British Papua might have been called after Jamaica, for there can hardly be a land with a more "overflowing abundance of rivers," as well as streams and springs. Its highest points are nearly twice the elevation of those in Jamaica,* and are clothed with dense forests apparently to the summits of the ranges. No one who realises the irrepressibly rapid increase of trade and population throughout Australia, and the developments taking place in Northern Queensland, can doubt that these highlands will as surely be sources of wealth and health hereafter as those of Jamaica and Ceylon. In consequence of this greater internal elevation, the rivers are not merely greater and more numerous, but are navigable in some cases for important distances into the interior.†

In connexion with the many admirable bays, harbours, and anchorages which indent the main coast line and yield shelter among the "satellite" islands of the Protectorate, these useful waterways should be borne in mind amid other natural advantages. Jamaica has, of course, plenty of ports conveniently placed for her oversea trade, but British Papua is equally well endowed in this respect for all her needs in the future.

With regard to lands lying between the ranges and the sea, they are extensive and splendidly suitable, in various districts, for pastoral and agricultural interests. Enough has been seen of cattle, horses, pigs, goats, and poultry to say that they thrive perfectly. High-bred sheep imported do not seem so successful; but no careful experiments have yet been made.

African or Indian sheep would, probably, furnish a satisfactory meat supply, but such excellent South Down mutton can be eaten in Jamaica, where trouble has been taken in the matter, that there is no reason yet to expect ultimate failure to produce good stock of this kind.

Cattle thrive as well as possible, and also pigs. The latter are indigenous, not merely on the mainland but on the islands to the eastward.

Of agricultural lands a cleared tract exists, no great distance west of "Granville," equal apparently to Vere, the best sugar-cane district in Jamaica. It is as level for agricultural operations, as well watered, seemingly as fertile, and as accessible by sea and river. Other fine areas occur of much the same character, many covered with valuable virgin forest, while the sugar-canes cultivated in native gardens look as healthy and vigorous as any to be seen anywhere. The same can be stated of specimens of tobacco, pine-apples, yams, bananas, sweet potatoes, and numerous other

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* Mount Owen Stanley, British New Guinea, is 13,000 feet, and the Blue Mountain, Jamaica, a little over 7,000 feet. These are the crowning points, but there are several others of 10,000 feet in British New Guinea; while the greatest altitude in Queensland, one of the Bellenden Ker Range, is only somewhat above 5,000 feet.

† The Mai-Cussa, Fly, Aird, Jubilee, and St. Joseph Rivers may be mentioned, but there are others. The Fly River was ascended for about 500 miles in a steam launch by the distinguished naturalist and explorer, Signor D'Albertis.

tropical fruits and vegetables which it would be tedious to dwell upon.

3. The aborigines of Jamaica were described as very numerous by the early Spanish authorities, when the island was first occupied by that Power at the end of the 15th century. One of their historians (I believe, Las Casas) described it as a "land of cottages," and estimated the inhabitants at over 60,000 souls.

These unfortunate people, everywhere mentioned as a mild and confiding race, rapidly disappeared under the slavery and cruelty of the Spaniards. After a century and a half (the term of Spanish control) they seem to have been wholly exterminated, and on the capture of the island by the English in 1655 the chief native tenants of the soil were "Maroons"—descendants of Spaniards and negroes, who had ensconced themselves in remote glens and fastnesses of the hills. British New Guinea, like Jamaica, therefore, has a numerous native population on its earliest settlement.

The earliest exports from the West India Island during Spanish occupation seem to have been mahogany, logwood (and probably fustic and "lignum vitæ"), hides, hogs' lard, and some minor products. One hundred and seventy years after its discovery, and in 1664, one of the first English Governors, Sir Thomas Modyford, thus stated its interests and natural resources:—"After having a census taken, which showed the population to be 4,205 persons, in his first report on the condition of the island he informed the King that sugar, ginger, indigo, cotton, tobacco, dyeing woods, and cocoa may be and are produced as well as anywhere, but pimento, China roots, aloes, rhubarb, sarsaparilla, tamarinds, cassia, vaignillios, hides and tallow, are the proper commodities. There is the best building timber and stone in the whole world, and great plenty of corn, cassada, potatoes, yams, plantains, bananas, peas, hogs, fowls, cattle, horses, asincoes, sheep, fish and turtle, and pasturage—in fine, nothing wanting but more hands and cows. The low valley grounds are feverish and aguish from June to Christmas, the rainy weather, but the uplands and hills are as healthy as Costall in England."*

Passing over the quaintness of expression, it may be said that many of these products, or their equivalents, already exist in British New Guinea; nor are there any, I believe, unlikely to flourish profitably hereafter.

In addition to valuable timbers, the new territory yields "jungle produce," such as sago, rattans, copra, massoi bark, bird skins, &c.† (unknown in Jamaica), while its beche-de-mer and pearl-shell beds are of considerable value and are products that do not rank among Jamaica exports.

Sir Thomas Modyford's remark at starting his new administration (some ten years after the conquest of Jamaica, and when

* "Handbook of Jamaica," 1887–88, page 35.

† My feeling as a student of natural history revolts against the inclusion of these as economic articles, but a good many valuable packages have left British New Guinea in the past ten or twelve years.

matters were doubtless in a somewhat transitional state), that the only things wanting were "hands and cows," does not apply to British Papua, where there are numbers of "hands," and hands that will be very available and useful (under judicious treatment) in assisting to develop latent industries. Speculations have been made as to the numbers of the native population, but they are of no value whatever—rather the reverse in fact, since they suggest a comparatively even distribution of aboriginals, which is not the case.

All that we know at present with certainty is, that some districts are thickly peopled, others much less so, and that there are tracts apparently without any inhabitants at all. The irregular and unknown nature of a large part of the country will render it a difficult matter for some time to form even an approximately correct estimate in this respect. Still the Papuan is to be counted upon as the most important element in the local labour force for some time hence. It is acclimatized, it is cheap, and it is not an unintelligent class of service under certain circumstances. It is not generally understood, I believe, that the copra, gum, and bêche-de-mer exported from the British New Guinea coast is all collected by natives, and the two latter articles cured and "bagged" without supervision, once the collector has been shown the process. It is impossible here to describe the various ways, indeed in which natives have rendered useful and willing aid to traders and visitors, but their skill as boatmen and wood-cutters may be noted. They are generally well satisfied with good meals of rice as rations, and a few sticks of tobacco pays for a day's work. The Papuan is not an idler in any true sense, although his efforts for an employer are often intermittent and not fully satisfactory.

We have, therefore, in the indigenous labour supply of British New Guinea a valuable factor for evoking its wealth, and in this respect may feel an important advantage over the West Jamaica Colony when it passed into British possession, for instead of 4,000 odd persons, we assuredly have many more than that number conveniently resident in very accessible positions.

These remarks are more lengthy than I at first intended, but I believe they will serve to show that the parallel drawn between the two places is a fair one, and yields considerable historical encouragement to future effort for the utilization and settlement of a spacious, valuable, and beautiful national property.

Past and Present Trade with British New Guinea.

It is doubtful whether a clear appreciation generally exists as to the proximity and accessibility of British New Guinea and its islands to Queensland ports.

A table of distances and list of the principal islands appended to this paper (Appendix 1 and 2) will best show the comparatively insignificant spaces which in the present day of steam and electric communication divide the several points. The main coast line

from the 141° meridian of east longitude (about one degree west of our chief western river—the Mai Cussa River) to Mitre Rock at the boundary of German New Guinea (N.E. coast) is some 1,000 miles in length. And the aggregate measurements of the various islands along shore must be equal to if not more than the same extent. The total number of islands and islets in Protectorate waters may be approximately taken from the Admiralty charts and the Australia Directory, 1879 (also an Admiralty publication), at over 300 in number. A proportion is, however, neither placed on the charts nor enumerated, and do not appear in the above total. Hardly any of those mentioned are so small or barren that they are not utilised as fishing resorts or cultivated by the natives. No such large and sterile islands exist in the Protectorate, for instance, as Magnetic, Stradbroke, and Moreton Islands. Even the low mangrove-clad islets have a value in the wood they carry, which is used as a common fuel for shipping, while the red mangrove furnishes excellent material for piles and posts, resisting the attacks of the wood-louse. The larger islands are well watered and timbered, and of most fertile character. Many in the Calvados chain, Sudest Island, &c., would be suitable for stock, having abundant grass and water, while the inhabitants are not numerous.

The innumerable rocks, reefs, and lagoons* amid the groups of the Louisiade, Engineer, Bonvouloir, Lachlans, Woodlarks, Laseinie, D'Entrecasteaux, Luscancy, Trobriand, and other islands† are swarming with fish, turtle, and other marine products, which form a very important staple of diet for the aborginal populations. The fish-fauna of British New Guinea is rich in different species, and includes the best edible tropical varieties, while the supply of each kind is abundant at many points, although not easily procured from the natives by visitors.

From May to October inclusive the S.E. monsoon blows with force and regularity varying from this point, but slightly as a rule throughout the season. There is thus abundance of favourable wind for vessels running backwards and forwards between the coasts of Queensland and British New Guinea. At this season also the climate along the mainland or amid the Eastern islands is extremely agreeable, and apparently healthy—the rainfall being reduced to a minimum. At the east end of New Guinea proper, where much moisture collects about the densely forested high lands, the weather is proportionately wet for a great part of the year. In the Archipelagoes north, south, and east of Samarai (Dinner I.) the atmosphere seems drier and clearer and hardly at all malarial.

It is difficult to conceive more beautiful scenes for yachting cruises than are presented by the natural features and grouping of these islands. They are almost certain to become popular resorts

* The largest lagoon in the world is stated to exist between the Trobriand Islands and Mitre Rock (Findlay's South Pacific Directory).

† The Admiralty chart entitled Australia, Coral Sea and Great Barrier Reef, sheet 2, No. 2764, should be consulted if further details are required.

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for those whose health or pleasure is enhanced by life at sea or such voyages as that of the well-known Earl and the Doctor.

When it is realised that Port Moresby is nearer to Brisbane (*viâ* Cooktown) than Port Kennedy (Thursday Island), and that in fact there is *no point* in the remotest part of Protectorate oceania waters *as far* from Brisbane and Cooktown as Normanton,* while the conditions for traffic between the two communities are so suitable, it is no longer surprising that some trade has been created in past years, or that such relations are being more rapidly developed in the present, in spite of the possession of many similar natural resources by Queensland, the massacres of aliens and destruction of vessels by aboriginals, and the consequent serious pecuniary losses of merchants in Cooktown and Thursday Island.

Considering the small size of the several craft employed in the "bêche-de-mer" and other industries, &c., it seems to argue favourably for the absence of bad weather in these waters that hardly a wreck has taken place from this cause in the past.

Trade with British New Guinea, as will be seen from the accompanying returns (Appendices 3 to 6), is almost wholly confined to the North Queensland towns—viz., Cooktown, Townsville, and Thursday Island. Sydney furnishes certain supplies for the use of the London Missionary Society Stations in British New Guinea, but the details of this branch of trade are not now available for reference. Certain quantities of coal for the service of Her Majesty's ships is also sent in from Newcastle.

Probably almost the earliest regular transactions and negotiations for land with the natives of the mainland of British New Guinea were those of the London Missionary Society, who placed "teachers" at certain points in 1871. It is stated that a Sydney merchant (Captain Towns) has despatched a vessel or vessels to the Louisiade group for bêche-de-mer, &c., either before or about that date; and the Woodlark Islands were a resort for whaling ships some years previously. Definite information on these points would be of considerable interest. It is not to be had at this point, however, and indeed is not material to a paper which cannot attempt to deal exhaustively with the historical side of British enterprise in New Guinea. Bartering by the first discoverers and explorers with the natives for ethnographic and other curiosities was no doubt the earliest simple step towards trading relations, which are thus contemporaneous with the history of the territory itself.

The returns herewith exhibit an encouraging expansion of commercial interests, which have been created in the past fourteen (14) years. It is obvious from them, I believe, that British New Guinea is virtually a district of Queensland—a valuable district—

* Distances given in the A.U.S.N. Company's Handbook are as follows:—Brisbane to Cooktown, 1,008; Cooktown to Thursday Island, ; Thursday Island to Normanton, 500.

and one far easier of approach and entrance than many of her western "back blocks."

The shipping and interchange returns are necessarily imperfect as to past transactions. They do not appear to show the full and true qualities of natural produce from British New Guinea, nor always represent the real values of what is specified.

With regard to goods outwards from Queensland, also, it would seem that there are omissions and understatements, more particularly as to those transhipped in this Colony. These points of uncertainty can soon be avoided by an improved public service in British New Guinea itself, and they do not invalidate the proofs presented by the returns that a trade almost wholly confined to Queensland, and decidedly increasing, has been fairly established.

It is to be borne in mind, also, that considerable yields of pearl-shell and bêche-de-mer have been appropriated from waters both geographically and equitably those of British New Guinea. The parallel of 10° S. lat. bisects Torres Straits, and the waters and islands northward of that line, which were included ten years ago by the extension of the Queensland boundary,* legitimately belong to British New Guinea. At that date the annexation was no doubt a judicious and statesmanlike step, not only in order to control those engaged in the fisheries of Torres Straits, but for securing the command of what is virtually a great inter-oceanic canal. Still, the fact remains that by the projection northwards of the boundary beyond the par. 10° lat. S., between 7 and 8,000 square miles (geo.) of the just proportion of British New Guinea fishery fields with other rights were appropriated by Queensland, and that the valuable proceeds of the Warrior and other rich reefs and pearl-shell deposits have never been credited to the account of the opposite territory. The fisheries of Torres Straits have declined of late years, but are still very profitable in places. Acts for the protection of both pearl-shell and bêche-de-mer fisheries will, however, shortly have to be enforced on both sides of the Straits, unless permanent injury to these important marine resources is to be regarded with indifference. The pearl-shell, bêche-de-mer, and turtle shell exported in the 13 years from 1875 to 1887, and specified as the "Produce and manufacture of the Colony," amounts to over 920,000*l.*,† or probably nearly one million sterling to date. There is no doubt that a fair and important per-centage of this should be added to British New Guinea returns, but it is impossible to fix the amount.

Since trade opened with British New Guinea (about the year 1875) 373 vessels of 20,592 tons, and carrying 3,283, are recorded as passing between the two coasts. Those clearing, however, for

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* Act No. 1, 43 Vict., 1879.

† Turtle shell, 3,972*l.*; pearl shell, 732,349*l.*; bêche-de-mer, 185,248*l.*; total, 921,569*l.*

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the Louisiade, Woodlark, and other groups would be include din traffic with the South Sea Islands.

The vessels enumerated transported goods in exchange to the value of 80,000*l.*, and it is noteworthy that the imports from British New Guinea were largely in excess of the exports thither—being some 50,000*l.* in value against 30,000*l.*—this, too, in spite of the fact that the small alien resident and visiting population is chiefly dependent upon foreign provisions of most kinds. This surplus of imports over exports in the early "balance of trade" would be held an especially promising indication in the views of certain political economists.

Of products from British New Guinea bêche-de-mer has hitherto yielded far the most important share, being stated at over 40,000*l.*, or four-fifths of the total imports. The first importation of this article was probably made by Captain Colin Thomson in 1873, when some 12 tons of fish were taken to Townsville from the Louisiade Archipelago. He was one of the earliest, if not the first pioneer in those waters.

The principal goods sent from Queensland are, firstly, tobacco, which forms the leading item of the statistics. This is the ordinary American manufactured tobacco in use throughout the Pacific for trafficking with native races, the total export of which to the end of June this year reached a value of 5,288*l.* Rice, flour, and salt beef, &c., &c. are now articles of regular if not yet very considerable consumption in the new territory.

In order to show the most recent developments of supply and demand, the returns of the interchange in detail for the first half of the current year is herewith appended. (Appendix 7.)

It will be seen that besides "bêche-de-mer," pearl-shell, copra, and gum have been exported from British New Guinea. A few bundles of rattans shipped have escaped notice in the returns. No mention is made either of bird skins, which have been sold in some numbers yearly since the commencement of local trade by Mr. A. Goldie, the first merchant settled at Port Moresby,* and other traders. These and numerous packages of natural history specimens, ethnographic curiosities, turtle shell, "green snail" and nautilus shells, &c.,† scarcely mentioned in the returns, would all serve to swell the amount derived from British New Guinea.

With the exception, however, of copra, none of these should perhaps be regarded as contributing permanently to the trade of the territory.

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* Mr. Goldie first visited New Guinea as a natural history specimen collector in 1874, and having found the labours of an explorer too trying for his health, opened a general store in Port Moresby, I believe about 1880. Mr. A. H. Kissack commenced a similar enterprise at East End in 1885. Both deserve note from the marked success they have had in improving alien relations with the natives.

† *Vide* "Commercial Products of the Sea," by Simmonds.

There are still thousands of square miles of unvisited and almost unknown waters which will doubtless yield bêche-de-mer and pearl-shell for years to come; but in a forecast of future proceeds it would be unsafe to rely too closely upon these articles. Both are found, of the best possible quality, but the most valuable shell has hitherto chiefly been found at depths which make it difficult and even dangerous to obtain. The accessible bêche-de-mer reefs, likewise, have been exhausted in several places, although the prospect of further productive finds may be considered good.

The two or three cargoes of cedar and malava cut in the forests of Redscar Bay and the Tate River, being sold in Melbourne, do not appear in Queensland statistics. Stress has been laid on the fact that this industry has been deserted for the present as unprofitable. There is nothing, however, to discourage future enterprise of the kind under more satisfactory arrangements than have hitherto been adopted. The development of Northern Australia is proceeding, and many of the timbers required may be conveniently supplied in time to come from the neighbouring and accessible forests of British New Guinea, which undoubtedly contain innumerable valuable woods of abundant growth and fit for almost every purpose.

I have said nothing about the supposed mineral wealth of the country because next to nothing is known. Small quantities of gold have been found of best quality at more than one point, and it is a reasonable expectation that it will find a place amid other valuable resources. But there are many other tropical products of reliable and profitable character to be encouraged, without being over-influenced by a desire for one particular resource which may not exist in British New Guinea, and which is in no way essential to a sufficient measure of agricultural and commercial prosperity. Of course it is not to be denied that, should it be discovered (as is quite possible still) in payable quantities, it would not only be a direct source of wealth, but that it would probably prove the greatest stimulant to other interests in its vicinity.

A. MUSGRAVE, JUN.,
Deputy Commissioner for
British New Guinea.

Cooktown,
31st August 1888.

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Enclosure 1.

Table of Distances between certain Points in Queensland and British New Guinea, &c.

Geographical Points.	Geographical Miles.
	(About)
Port Kennedy (Thursday Island) to the point of coast on 141° long. E. (the boundary line of Dutch New Guinea)	120
Port Kennedy to Talbot Island (mouth of Maicassa River)	82
Port Kennedy to Kiwai Island (mouth of Fly River)	150
Port Kennedy to Motu Motu (head of Gulf of Papua), *viâ* Dalrymple, York, and Darnley Islands*	325
Motu Motu to Yule Island*	53
Motu Motu to Port Moresby	68
Port Moresby to Samarai (E. end)	259
Port Kennedy to Port Moresby direct	300
Cooktown to Motu Motu	480
Cooktown to Port Moresby	380
Cooktown to Samarai	425
Samarai to Mitre Rock (coast boundary point of German New Guinea)	240
Samarai to north island of Trobriand group	180
Samarai to N.E. extreme Protectorate waters (intersection of mer. 155° E. long., and par. 8° S. lat.)	380
Samarai to Woodlark Islands	180
Samarai to Laughlans	210
Samarai to Adéle Island (S.E. extreme of Louisiade Archipelago)	240
Samarai to S.E. extreme of Protectorate waters (intersection of mer. 155° E. long., with par. 12° S. lat.)	350

Enclosure 2.

List of Principal Islands† in Waters of British New Guinea.

Woodlark Island.

	Miles.
Circumference, about	100
Length, „	35
Breadth, „	15

Rossel Island.

Circumference, about	50
Length, „	25
Breadth, „	10

* This was the course pursued during the steam service which existed from July 1886 to July of this year between Thursday Island and Port Moresby.

† The Admiralty charts have been referred to for these measurements.

Sudest Island.

		Miles.
Circumference, about	- - -	95
Length,	,, - - -	45
Breadth,	,, - - -	10

St. Aignan's Island.

Circumference, about	- - -	50
Length,	,, - - -	25
Breadth,	,, - - -	8

Goodenough Island.

Circumference, about	- - -	50
Length,	,, - - -	20
Breadth,	,, - - -	12

Ferguson Island.

Circumference, about	- - -	90
Length,	,, - - -	25
Breadth,	,, - - -	18

Normanby Island.

Circumference, about	- - -	85
Length,	,, - - -	35
Breadth,	,, - - -	15

*Saibai Island.**

Circumference, about	- - -	26
Length,	,, - - -	12
Breadth,	,, - - -	4

* This island is within the present northern water boundary of Queensland, but is one of several coast islands which properly belong to the Protectorate.

Enclosure 3.

STATEMENT of SHIPPING passing between British New Guinea and Queensland for 14 Years (from earliest accessible date, 1875, to 30th June 1888), compiled from Queensland Annual Statistical Registers.

Years.	Entered.									Cleared.									
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.				With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.		Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.
1875 - - -	—	—	—	1	16	6	1	16	6	1875 - - -	—	—	—	1	239	10	1	239	10
1876 - - -	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	1876 - - -	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—
1877 - - -	2	59	10	2	74	13	4	123†	23	1877 - - -	5	134	27	—	—	—	5	134	27
1878 - - -	16	267	43	8	284	43	24	551	86	1878 - - -	27	728	204	5	117	44	32	845	248
1879 - - -	15	394	107	7	43	65	22	637†	172	1879 - - -	15	447	127	5	143	49	20	590	176
1880 - - -	9	171	84	6	147	53	15	318	137	1880 - - -	8	84	38	6	208	87	14	292	125
1881 - - -	11	375	98	8	2,866	332	19	3,241	430	1881 - - -	13	429	105	8	666	142	21	1,095	247
1882 - - -	17	731	125	6	167	50	23	898	175	1882 - - -	17	578	104	4	88	19	21	666	123
1883 - - -	30	803	184	11	315	62	41	1,118	246	1883 - - -	37	915	201	4	105	37	41	1,020	238
1884 - - -	30	801	130	12	4,306	530	42	5,107	660	1884 - - -	29	792	128	12	4,036	530	41	4,828	658
1885 - - -	29	2,651	244	15	1,174	182	44	3,825	426	1885 - - -	27	3,472	287	16	1,548	191	43	5,020	478
1886 - - -	28	1,484	190	14	308	73	42	1,792	263	1886 - - -	26	1,409	180	14	308	74	40	1,717	254
1887 - - -	40	2,040	277	4	418	31	44	2,458	308	1887 - - -	44	2,520	391	32	412	164	76	2,932	555
1888* - - -	19	1,325	188	20	215	112	39	1,540	300‡	1888 - - -	17	1,206	140	1	8	4	18	1,214	144
Totals - -	246	11,101	1,680	114	10,333	1,552	360	21,434	3,232	Totals - -	265	12,714	1,932	108	7,878	1,351	373	20,592	3,283

* Note by Sub-Collector, Cooktown:—"All the above were in cargo, Government vessels and H.M.S. not included.—(Signed) H. BURKITT."
† These totals are incorrectly given in the printed statistics, but are left unaltered. The slight difference will not affect several conclusions.
‡ The figures for 1888 only relate to the first half of the year and to the ports of Cooktown and Thursday Island only.

N.B.—It may be added that the German steamers which have been running monthly to Finschhafen, *viâ* Samarai, with cargoes and passengers for the latter port, are not included.

Enclosure 4.

Return of Imports and Exports Exchanged between Queensland and British New Guinea in past Fourteen Years from 1875 *to* 30*th June* 1888.

Years.	Imports Values.	Exports Values.	Total Values.
	£	£	£
1875* - - -	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
1867 to 1876 - -	805†	Nil.	805
1877 - - -	8	743	751
1878 - - -	3,459	3,107	6,566
1879 - - -	1,658	531	2,189
1880 - - -	2,190	311	2,501
1881 - - -	2,372	676	3,048
1882 - - -	7,246	804	8,050
1883 - - -	8,831	1,608	10,439
1884 - - -	6,203	2,555	8,758
1885 - - -	5,658	2,816	8,474
1886 - - -	3,019	4,972	7,991
1887 - - -	2,527	7,564	10,091
1888 - - -	5,613‡	4,650‡	10,263
Total - -	49,589	30,337	79,926

* Nothing is shown in Queensland Annual Statistics of 1875.

† In 1869, *vide* Queensland Annual Statistical Register for 1876, page 44.

‡ These values are for first half of current year, and are only from ports of Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.

N.B.—1875 is chosen as an initial date, since the first record of a vessel going to British New Guinea from Queensland occurs in that year, *i.e.*, so far as shown by the references at hand.

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Enclosure 5.

Return of Beche-de-Mer imported from British New Guinea, from 1878 *to* 30*th June* 1888.

Year.	Quantity.				Values.	Remarks.
	Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	£	
1878 - -	45	1	0	0	2,893	
1879* - -	40	15	0	0	4,285	
1880 - -	19	7	0	0	2,190	Many of the British New Guinea reefs have doubtless been "over-fished" for this product, and will have to be protected shortly; but there are still extensive fields in Protectorate waters hardly examined as yet.
1881 - -	23	15	1	21	2,312	
1882 - -	60	7	0	14	5,816	
1883 - -	96	15	0	0	8,771	
1884 - -	65	10	0	0	6,033	
1885 - -	53	6	0	0	4,739	
1886 - -	23	16	0	0	1,836	
1887 - -	22	19	3	0	1,335	
1888† - -	14	3	3	0	1,055	
Totals -	165	16	0	7	41,265	

* This quantity and value includes a receipt from Bampton Island, near the Fly River.

† This is merely for the first six months of the year.

Enclosure 6.

Return of Flour, Rice, and Tobacco (Manufactured) Exported from Queensland to British New Guinea from 1875 *to* 30*th June* 1888.

Years.	Flour.		Rice.		Tobacco.	
	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	£	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	£	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	£
1875 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1876 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1877 - - -	3 0 0 0	65	—	—	—	—
1878* - - -	8 0 0 0	149	8 10 0 0	217	0 13 0 3	159
1879 - - -	1 0 0 0	17	11 18 0 0	193	0 5 0 18	47
1880 - - -	—	—	9 12 0 0	157	0 10 3 1	81
1881 - - -	2 0 0 0	23	7 11 0 0	113	1 0 2 19	144
1882 - - -	1 0 0 0	18	4 18 0 0	96	0 11 2 13	104
1883 - - -	4 12 0 0	78	12 8 0 0	199	3 3 3 4	383
1884 - - -	8 0 0 0	118	6 16 0 0	108	8 2 2 22	604
1885 - - -	6 0 0 0	78	12 15 3 20	187	6 7 1 23	706
1886 - - -	15 4 0 0	233	17 17 3 0	238	6 4 2 16	819
1887 - - -	26 0 0 0	296	41 11 1 4	543	11 7 3 18	1,443
1888† - - -	15 0 0 0	182	14 9 3 2	190	6 16 0 0	798
Totals - -	89 16 0 0	1,257	148 7 2 26	2,241	45 3 2 25	5,288

* This was the year of the first mining expeditions to British New Guinea from Sydney and Cooktown.

† For first six months, and only from Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.

Enclosure 7.

RETURN SHOWING PARTICULARS OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BETWEEN BRITISH NEW GUINEA AND QUEENSLAND DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE CURRENT YEAR, 1888.

Return of Imports from British New Guinea into Queensland for the Half Year ending 30th June 1888.

(From Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.)

Articles.	Quantities.	Values in Sterling.
		£
Bêche-de-Mer	9 tons 1 cwt. and 83 bags	1,055
Copra	2 tons and 621 bags	277
Curiosities	6 pkgs.	13
Gum	29 tons 10 cwt.	470
Shell, Pearl*	54 tons 14 cwt.	3,770
Shell, Turtle	1 cs. and 13 lbs.	18
Specimens, Natural History	1 pkg.	10
		5,613

Returns of Exports, Half-year ending 30th June 1888, from Queensland to British New Guinea.

(Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.)

Articles.	Quantities.	Values in Sterling.
		£
Anchors and chain cables	3	3
Arrowroot	80 lbs.	2
Bags	6 pkgs.	62
Beer (bottled)	490 gallons.	105
Biscuits	3,437 lbs.	65
Butter	1,356 lbs.	75
Building materials	34 pkgs.	81
Candles	3 pkgs.	2
Cocoa and chocolate	50 lbs.	7
Coffee (roasted)	20 lbs.	1
Cordage and rope	13 cwt. and 2 qrs.	42
Coals	496 tons.	745
Drapery	17 pkgs.	394
Fish (salmon)	948 lbs.	32
Fish (sardines)	72 lbs.	4
Fish (salted, &c.)	286 lbs.	7

* In the return of exports for the first six months of this year from the G.O. at Samarai, at least 10 tons more pearl shell are recorded as shipped, amounting to an additional 1,000*l*. This agrees with the sub-collector's note that the Customs returns do not show the whole trade, part being lost in transhipment.

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Articles.	Quantities.	Values in Sterling.
		£
Flour	14 tons 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 20 lbs.	181
Furniture	21 pkgs.	80
Fruits (bottled)	72 lbs.	4
Grain (rice)	14 tons 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.	190
Grain (maize)	8½ bshl.	2
Hardware	73 pkgs.	169
Iron (bar)	1 cwt.	2
Iron (galvanised)	4 tons.	86
Leather	20 lbs.	1
Maizena and corn flour	40 lbs.	1
Matches and vestas	2 pkgs.	8
Metal (yellow)	1 cwt.	1
Miscellaneous articles (diving, &c.)	1 pkg.	103
Nails	2 cwt.	3
Oils (kerosene)	251 galls.	22
Oils (other)	75 galls.	8
Oilmen's stores (pickles)	18 doz.	9
Oilmen's stores (others)	68 pkgs.	265
Onions	6 cwt.	6
Paints, &c.	10 cwt.	17
Potatoes	400 lbs.	4
Preserves (jams)	600 lbs.	15
Provisions (salt beef)	3 tons 1 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs.	88
Provisions (in tins, &c.)	4,984 lbs.	152
Provisions (hams)	65 No.	31
Salt	3 cwt.	2
Ship chandlery	3 pkgs.	6
Soap	6 cwt.	5
Spirits (brandy)	41$\frac{1}{3}\frac{3}{2}$ galls.	46
Spirits (Geneva)	85 galls.	37
Spirits (rum)	76$\frac{1}{1}\frac{8}{8}$ galls.	51
Spirits (whisky)	100$\frac{1}{1}\frac{6}{6}$ galls.	78
Sugar	4 tons 7 cwt. 1 qr.	99
Tar	24 galls.	2
Tea	937 lbs.	52
Timber	87 pkgs.	80
Timber (sawn pine)	23,912 ft.	293
Timber (rough pine)	1,000 ft.	13
Tobacco (cigars)	52 lbs.	6
Tobacco (manufactured)	15,232 lbs.	798
Turps	5 galls.	1
Vegetables	5 pkgs.	11
Vinegar	8 galls.	2
Wine	20 galls.	23
Total value of exports	—	4,680

Note by Sub-Collector, Customs, Cooktown:—N.B.—"These lists include only goods for which warehousing, import, or export entries have been passed at the Customs. A considerable quantity of bêche-de-mer and pearl shell is simply transferred from the New Guinea vessels to foreign-going vessels on 'Transhipment Warrants,' and consequently does not appear in the statistical returns of Queensland imports and exports. It is optional with owners to tranship goods thus, and, being a little less troublesome than warehousing goods for exportation, they often prefer it, forgetting that they thereby exclude so much cargo from the statistical returns of the port. (Signed) H. BURKITT."

Enclosure 8.

EXTRACT.

Letter of Captain Moresby, R.N., to the Editor of the "Times," 1875 (?).

As to the character of this country, I can only speak generally within the limits of a letter. The New Guinea coast north of Torres Straits, as far as Yule Island, appears to be an almost unbroken level of swampy, mangrove-covered, and probably malarious country, on the low dreary shores of which the surf breaks unchecked by any barrier reef; a home of the black Papuan race, and wholly unsuited for white occupation.

Reaching Yule Island, some 30 miles west of Redscar Bay, we find a change. The Owen Stanley range approaches the coast to within 20 or 25 miles; but the high and healthy land of their slopes is cut off from the sea-board by a belt of this same low, mangrove-covered swamp, through which the rivers discovered by Her Majesty's ship "Basilisk" will in time afford steam waterways, for their currents are too rapid for sail or oar, to the high lands within. At Redscar Head, 35 miles east of Yule Island, an entire change is found to have obtained; the shore is sheltered by a great barrier reef, which uprears itself from bottomless depths, at a distance of from four to ten miles from the shore, inside which lies calm navigable water, which ripples up to a coral beach, backed by round-topped swelling hills openly timbered, with rich tropical valleys between. From this point to the extreme east of New Guinea, the coast, as far as my knowledge and judgment go, is suitable for white settlement, and it is peopled by a mild Malayan race, with which it seems possible to live on terms of easy friendship.

The three considerable islands, Hayter, Basilisk, and Moresby, which lie off the east end of New Guinea and command the new route, are, I think, suitable for white habitation, especially the last, which attains an elevation of 1,500 feet, and is larger and more fertile than the others. The sago palm is particularly prolific on this island, and its harbours are numerous.

The north-eastern shores of New Guinea are apparently more tropically luxuriant than the south-eastern, and their lofty mountains, where a cool temperature is obtainable, appear more accessible. There is no barrier reef to create a succession of secure harbours, but the anchorages are sufficiently good and numerous. It must, however, be remembered that the natives, after passing Cape Vogel, appear to be a treacherous and savage race.

With regard to the natural wealth of this country, some certainties, probabilities, and possibilities exist which should not

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be confounded but disentangled and rated according to their value. First, then, as to the certainties :—

New Guinea is rich in timber, which ought to form an immediate article of export. And here I would speak a word of warning against indiscriminate and wasteful felling, by pointing attention to the New Hebrides group, where the supply of sandal wood, once bountiful, has been all but exhausted by wasteful treatment.

New Guinea is fruitful in the sago palm, and the yield might be increased so as to form a permanent and paying export. Yams and roots are abundant, and might be cultivated to any extent for food or export ; but the main source of wealth in New Guinea at present is the cocoa-nut, of which the supply appeared to me to be practically unlimited. I can scarcely give a better idea of the value of the cocoa-nut harvest than by quoting from a late report of the Consul Miller, of Tahiti, who says that the value of the coprah (dried cocoa-nut kernels) exported from Tahiti, in 1874 was 20,191*l.*, and that of cocoa-nut oil (311 tuns) 11,190*l.* These products, actually in existence, would doubtless be the first support of an infant colony, and to them I think its immediate attention should be directed.

The probabilities are as follows :—Pearl-shell, bêche-de-mer, and tortoise-shell fisheries would doubtless offer a paying return, but would need time and material for their development.

Tens of thousands of acres of low land could probably be cultivated for rice, cotton, and sugar-cane with profit. On my late visit to the New Hebrides group I was struck by the excellence of its increasing cotton plantations, and felt the importance of English industry in this direction as tending to make us sufficiently independent of the American supply. The cultivation of such crops is not, however, a task for European labour, and would doubtless fall to the lot of the Chinese in New Guinea, whose importation would be a matter of time. Jute and other fibres are also among the products existent in New Guinea. We found steel sand in Hall Sound and Milne Bay. The high grass lands, which, as far as my observation went, seemed to be better watered than the generality of Australian pastures, would doubtless afford runs to millions of sheep and cattle, and much of the high land appears suitable for coffee culture.

On the possible sources of wealth in New Guinea, by which I intend the mineral, too much stress has, in my opinion, been laid, and this with the risk of attracting the least valuable, because the least plodding, class of colonists. The only sign of mineral wealth seen by the "Basilisk's" company were the fragments of gold quartz picked up by us at Fairfax Harbour, Port Moresby. It is probable, for several reasons, that a mountainous country like New Guinea has not been forgotten by Nature in respect of minerals ; but we must await the verdict of a geological survey as to the accessibility and amount of each deposit before we allow a consideration of them to enter into any calculation. The postponement of the discovery of gold in New Guinea is doubtless to be desired,

for the restraint and assuredness of established law, the existence of easy inter-communication, the creation of a sufficient food supply, and the presence of a large balance of population engaged in the regular industry of civilised life are needed to mitigate the evils attending a gold rush, and to turn the new wealth with least delay into its true channels.

The wish that no gold may be found in New Guinea can be indulged in only by those who do not travel beyond first aspects, who fail to perceive that solvent and purifying forces exist in a healthy body politic, which, working by natural law, transmute such evils as may be dreaded here into final good, and who fail to consider the impetus that such an accidental force must give to the development of a country.

Enclosure 9.

EXTRACT.

Lecture delivered by the Rev. S. McFarlane on "Papua and Papuans." (*Vide the "Brisbane Courier," January 30th*, 1886.)

If they wanted land they would have to arrange with the natives for it, and in the vicinity of Port Moresby they would frequently find as many as 20 different natives laying claim to one piece of land. He predicted that so far as the peninsula itself was concerned, the land question would in the future prove to be a difficult one. In the interior, however, they might take up as much land as they liked. Speaking of the question of the government of New Guinea, he said it could even now be made self-supporting. They had for products, pearl-shell, bêche-de-mer, and cedar, and a royalty on these would recoup the expense of governing the island. The proper way to govern it would be from Torres Straits, and that was the manner in which the Honourable John Douglas wished it should be governed. The central place of government should be a healthy spot, and for this reason he thought Torres Straits the most suitable place. If they settled at Port Moresby they would be 200 miles from the Gulf. If they had a depôt at Port Moresby and one at the east end of the island, and the head station at Torres Straits, the government of the place could be carried on by placing the various depôts within communication of each other by means of a Government steamer. As for produce, there was such land as he had described. They had about 50 teachers all along the coast, and these had informed him of large quantities of cedar grown in that portion of the island. He would not be much surprised to find that if gold was ever discovered in New Guinea it would be on the Gulf. There was in that vicinity a spot about two days' journey from Katow, which had never yet been visited by white men, in which it was possible

there might be gold. There was no doubt plenty of mineral wealth in New Guinea; but apart from that the Government could be supported by revenue in the manner mentioned.

Enclosure 10.

EXTRACT.

Letter from Captain Cyprian A. G. Bridge, R.N., to Major-General Scratchley, dated February 11th, 1885, relating to the Organisation of a Government for Protected Territory in New Guinea.

I am of opinion—an opinion confirmed by several conversations with my distinguished friend, Mr. Chalmers—that New Guinea, as a dependency of Great Britain, may eventually be made self-supporting.

The true way to raise a revenue is to get it out of the products of the country. There are many things for which a market could be found in the neighbouring Colonies that could be produced in New Guinea, without competing with the Colonial industries. Cinchona, coffee, sago, arrowroot, cacao, copra, cocoanut fibre, possibly cotton, might be obtained and exported without much risk of its being supposed that the native labour was in competition with the labour of our fellow countrymen in Australia. The forests of New Guinea probably contain timber which would form a valuable export. I believe that it would not be difficult to teach the natives, who in many parts are industrious and ingenious agriculturists, to cultivate what has been mentioned; whilst it would not take very long to make them understand that the produce was to be handed over to the white Chiefs to be sold to defray the cost of Government, any surplus being devoted to the benefit of the producers.

APPENDIX G.

THE MAI CUSSA.

MR. STRODE HALL to the SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

SIR, Thursday Island, June 1, 1888.

IN handing you an account of my trip to the Mai Cussa and Chester Rivers, I beg to report as follows:—My instructions were, to verify and correct (if necessary) the reports brought in by Captain Strachan, Mr. Brew, and Mr. Chester; to make a flying survey of the Mai Cussa and Chester Rivers and their tributaries, and also of the coast as far as the western boundary of British

New Guinea; and also to try and find out where the hostile tribe known as the "Togari men" come from. On no account was I to allow the boats under my command to part company, or the members of my party, who might be landed for any purpose, to be absent from the boats during night time. The party under my charge, consisting of Mr. G. A. Johnson, four natives of Prince of Wales Island, two from Mobiac, and four from Saibai, left Saibai in the cutter "Queen Victoria" and gig "Crystal" for Tauan on the 19th April, and on the following morning, after having filled our casks with fresh water, we left for Boigoo, where we arrived after a run of four and a half hours. Here we hauled the cutter upon the beach for repairs to rigging, and left half our stores in charge of Kitab, the Chief, so as to give us more room in the boats. The village at Boigoo, which consists of four or five very inferior huts, is situated on the northern point of the island, with an ironstone beach and a mud flat extending out for a quarter of a mile fronting it. The island itself is very low and closely resembles Saibai, having a large swamp in the centre of it. The natives could neither understand nor talk English, so our conversations were carried on through the Saibai men acting as interpreters. They were very friendly, and from their gardens—which are extensive—they brought us cocoanuts, sugar-cane, and sweet potatoes, in exchange for tobacco. Whilst at Boigoo I got the following information regarding the tribe known as "Togari":—Togari is the name of the wood of which their canoes are built. The natives here have never seen any of this wood growing either on the mainland near here or on any of the adjacent islands. I was able to get a specimen of this wood from an old Togari canoe which is now lying on the beach at Boigoo, and have brought it in with me to Thursday Island. It is apparently a description of cedar. The Togari natives vary in colour from almost white to jet black. Their hair is curly and long. They wear short-sleeve shirts, made from the pith of a tree known to the natives here as "dum." Their noses are pierced through each nostril and also through the cartilage. The women wear a piece of twine round their waists, and a piece of cocoanut fibre passed between their legs, and the ends tucked under the twine. Their canoes are from 33 to 38 feet long, the longer ones being about 4 feet wide and nearly as deep. They have no outriggers, and so are only fit to travel during fine weather; they are propelled by paddles alone. The larger canoes are paddled by the men standing two abreast, but when they are fighting the men then stand in single file. They prefer to fight on the shore, as their canoes are very crank. Before leaving Boigoo, Kitab, the Chief, asked me if I would take Awattie, a native of Boigoo, with me. As this man had been up the Mai Cussa on a previous trip—namely, with Captain Strachan—and I was told that he was able to talk to the mainland natives, I was very glad to take him. We left Boigoo on the 22nd instant and ran over to the mouth of the Mai Cussa, a distance of about five miles, anchored just inside, in front of an old Togari camp, the scene of the murder of Pino (the late missionary teacher at

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Boigoo), in 2½ fathoms, low-water soundings. The river here is over a mile wide, and we could not get bottom with the lead at 13 fathoms in the centre. We found some fresh water close to the camp, and although it was very dirty we had to fill up our casks, as our supply was already running short. I also had a tree here branded with the broad-arrow. The following morning we got outside the river at slack water, intending to run to the westward on the flood tide, but as there was a strong south-easterly wind blowing and a nasty sea the boats shipped a great deal of water, which I was afraid would spoil our stores; besides, as the water which we had got the previous day was already becoming tainted, I determined to run up the river. After having proceeded up for about 30 miles we came to its junction with the Wassen Cussa or Chester River. Here the width of the Mai Cussa is about 300 yards and depth of water 6 fathoms, whilst the Wassen Cussa is 150 yards wide with a depth of 5 fathoms. All the way up the Mai Cussa the banks were low and muddy, and lined with mangroves, with the exception of a few places, where the banks, for the distance of a few yards, were from 5 to 10 feet high, with a break in the mangroves. We anchored for the night in the Wassen Cussa, about a quarter of a mile below the junction. The next day we proceeded to beat down the Wassen Cussa, and at about 10 miles below the junction with the Mai Cussa we came upon another old Togari camp, off which we came to anchor. This camp, and several similar ones which we found later on during the trip, consisted of several "break winds" formed of twigs and saplings covered with paper bark, and large enough to contain about 300 men. All these camps were the same size, and appeared to be the same age. I think they must have been formed by the party who came along the coast last year. The Togari natives had evidently lived on shell-fish, cocoanuts, wallabies, and pigs. But I found no traces to prove them cannibals. I also found evidence to prove that they were accustomed to chew the betel nut, and in one camp three young betel palms were growing. I also saw a specimen of their mode of burial, which is quite new to this part of the country. A hole is dug about 4½ feet deep, 7 feet long, and 3 feet wide, and the body, having been covered with paper bark, is laid therein; a flat roof of sapling covered with paper bark is then made about 2 feet above the body, and the hole is then filled in with earth and levelled off, the place being marked by a spear stuck in the ground at the head and a bow at the foot. On the 25th we continued our journey down the Wassen Cussa, and reached the mouth the following day. The mouth of this river is about three-quarters of a mile wide; the river itself is very similar to the Mai Cussa, and has a depth of from 5 to 12 fathoms. After some little search, I found a navigable passage that took us to the north-west point of Aderberdana Kaua, the most western of three islands situated at the mouth of the river. By referring to the plan you will see I have shown three islands here instead of two, as shown on the Admiralty charts of this portion of the coast. Here, I regret to

say, we were stopped from proceeding further to the west, as the boats placed at my disposal were unsuited for the journey, the cutter drawing too much water to pass over the shoals, which are dry at low water from the coast to the reefs, which are shown on the Admiralty charts lying from five to seven miles off the land, and the gig being unable to navigate with safety the heavy sea which was running on the weather side of the reefs. Whilst searching for a navigable channel amongst these shoals the main-mast of the gig was sprung at the thwart. However, this was remedied later on in the trip by Mr. Johnson making a very good substitute out of some timber we got when we returned to the river. Our fresh water, too, was running short; so I very reluctantly gave up the idea of getting to the western boundary line, and after having made a rough survey of the islands we returned to the mouth of the Wassen Cussa, which we reached on the 29th. From here I began the work of completing a flying survey of both rivers and all their tributaries. We travelled up the Wassen Cussa as far as its junction with the Mai Cussa, exploring all the tributaries that we could get the boats into as we came to them, and running them up until they either became blocked with snags or else so narrow as to prevent further navigation. We also landed at several places, chiefly the sites of old Togari camps, and penetrated inland a distance of several miles for the purpose of examining the country. At the furthest point reached up each tributary, and also at most of the places where we landed, I had the broad-arrow cut in trees. From where the two rivers junction I followed up the main stream the same way, and reached our furthest point, about 50 miles from the mouth, and in latitude 8° 33′ south, on 9th May. Here the river was running through undulating open forest country, lightly timbered, and was only about 10 yards wide. The water was fresh, although we were not above tidal influence. Shortly after starting to return the gig got stove-in on a hidden snag. However, when we came to a suitable place we hauled her up and repaired the damage so as to stop all leakage. On my way down the Mai Cussa I explored all the numerous tributaries running into it from the eastward, and also ascertained that one of its western tributaries below its junction with Wassen Cussa penetrated completely through to that river, by that means proving that the so-called Strachan Island is in fact two distinct islands. On a dry rock which I found in one of the eastern tributaries of the Mai Cussa I planted a bottle containing a piece of paper, on which I put the date of our arrival there (16th May). On the 18th, whilst coming down the Tobeow Cussa, which heads out of Strachan Island, we met the only natives seen during our trip. They were a hunting party, consisting of from 30 to 40 men from Määt, a village which was rather more than a day's walk in a south-westerly direction from where we met them. At first they were very frightened, but, after a good deal of persuasion on the part of Awattie (who was able to talk to them), four of them were induced to come on board the cutter, where they received a present of some tobacco. I then went ashore in

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the gig to where the rest of the natives were and gave them some tomahawks, knives, and tobacco, in exchange for bows, arrows, necklaces, and head-dresses. These men were perfectly nude. Some have copied the Togari men by piercing each nostril besides the cartilage of the nose; some of the ornaments worn about their bodies are also copied from the Togari men. Several of the men were suffering from skin disease similar to that which is prevalent in Eastern New Guinea. These natives were of medium height, muscular and active, and varied in colour. Their hair was short and curly. I was able to find the Chief, named Parwee, and told him that one of the objects of the expedition was to find the whereabouts of the Togari men. He told me he did not know how far they came from, but that they came regularly every other year, and that they make the same raids at his village that they do further along the coast to the east. Before leaving him I gave him a knife, a tomahawk, and some tobacco. The country on the banks of the rivers, at the back of the mangroves, is low-lying, open forest country, covered with long grass, and in some places swampy. The soil is very poor generally; but there are a few ridges from 10 to 20 feet high, which carry good dark loam, and are covered with dense jungle. The banks of the rivers are low and muddy, and lined with dense mangroves towards the mouths and palms towards the head. The timber growing inland is principally paper bark, ironbark, gum, and wattle. At three places up eastern tributaries of the Mai Cussa we came across native gardens of from 1 to 3 acres in extent, containing yams, taro, sugar-cane, and tobacco. Fresh water was scarce, and I think that in a few weeks' time the holes where we obtained our water from would be dry. I examined carefully all tributaries coming into the Wassen Cussa from the west, hoping to find communication with the sea, and also all eastern branches of the Mai Cussa, lest any should lead into the Fly River, but failed in each case to find any such communication or indication of such. I am convinced from what I saw that this is a separate system. We arrived at Boigoo, on our return, on the 23rd May, and found that the natives had all left for Tauan, and that the stores we had left were all safe and in good order. The following day after a rough trip we reached Tauan. Here we left the gig, after having hauled her up on the beach and covered her with the sails. On leaving Tauan we passed to the north of the Ormon Reef, and anchored for the night at Mobiae. The following day we reached Hawkesbury Island, where we anchored, and arrived at Thursday Island on the afternoon of the 28th. The natives I had with me worked splendidly, with the exception of the Saibai men, who were lazy, useless, and very insolent. The health of the party throughout the trip was excellent. The accommodation at my disposal on board the cutter was very limited, and I could hardly find a plank to lie down on at night. From the observations I took I ascertained that Captain Strachan greatly over estimated the distance he travelled up the Mai Cussa and also the size of its tributaries. His description

of the country on Strachan Island is also incorrect. The soil on the southern island is very poor, but that on the northern, where the ground is rather higher, is a little better. I was unable to find the very dangerous rock which he reports being 5 miles from the mouth and in mid-stream. I do not believe it exists. His plan is so much out of position that it is difficult to understand to what islands or creeks he refers. I found Mr. Chester's report on the Mai Cussa very correct. I cannot agree with anything Mr. Brew stated with regard to the Chester River, and some of his locations are very inaccurate. For instance, he places the mouth of that river 16 miles north of the mouth of the Mai Cussa, whereas it is really only about 7 miles, and in a western direction. His description of the country is equally incorrect and misleading. I am unable to complete my plan in time to accompany this report, but as soon as it is finished I will forward it to your Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. E. STRODE HALL.

To His Excellency
The Special Commissioner for
British New Guinea.

APPENDIX H.

Statement furnished to the Special Commissioner by Mr. W. Whitton of the "Albatross" Cutter.

On our way out to the Woodlarks we sometimes make the Alcester Islands first. During the south-east season there is an anchorage at the village on the north side of the western island. Alcester Island, or Tokuna, is the home of the Tokuna tribe, quite a roving race of people. They are the greatest shipwrights of the eastern end of New Guinea, and on landing at the village a number of large sailing canoes may always be seen on the stocks there. Most of the canoes of the Engineer Group, Foriba, Milne Bay, and South Cape were built here or in other parts of the Woodlarks. The Tokuna people apparently only stay on their island while they are canoe building, for they have no gardens there, nor is there water. Their drinking water they bring from Woodlark Island. Once every year they form a fleet, and go to the Engineer Group and through a great part of the Louisiades. I have met Tokuna men at East Cape. Their last expedition mustered 14 large sailing canoes, and they were away during parts of December, January, and February. Often when we visit Tokuna there are no natives there, and looking through the houses we see their pots and pans and baskets just as they left them. Two or three years ago they founded a village, Bugisse, at the western end of Woodlark Island; but they depend little on food of their own growing as they pass their time sailing from

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place to place, often staying months in each village. According to the fashion of New Guinea hospitality, they are not allowed to work, and when they leave their canoes are filled with "ki-ki', of all sorts. They leave presents of armshells, shell necklaces stone tomahawks, and other valuables. A-pe-ana and Ga-re-tow are their Chiefs, the former an old man and the latter middle-aged. They have told me that the Tokuna people originally came from Tokuna, or Toguna, on the north side of Sudest Island, but they have the same language as the East Islanders (Panemote). Between Tokuna and Woodlark Island is a chain of small uninhabited islets. When we leave Dinner Island for the Woodlarks, after rounding Ventenant (Duou) on Normanby Island, we steer direct for a group of small islands which I surveyed and called the Albatross Group some months ago. It consists of 14 islands or islets. A few small basaltic islands in the centre are surrounded by a circular reef at an average distance of seven miles. A great part of this reef has from four to seven fathoms of water over it, but along the northern side it rises a few feet above the water, forming beautiful tree-covered islands. Yan-iba or Evans Island is the largest, and in a sandy bay on its southern side are the three villages, a few hundred yards from each other. The population of Yan-iba is about 200; Tou-se-aru, an old man, is the Chief. Eguin, in the centre of the group, has sheltered anchorage. The small village has only 10 or 20 natives belonging to it. All the islands are low; Egum, the highest, is about 150 feet. From this group, two high islands, Garwa and Koir-wata, of the Marshall Henry Group, can be seen. Sailing from Egum to the Woodlark Islands we generally make Bugisse, where there is a narrow anchorage for a small vessel. This is the new Tokuna village mentioned before. From Bugisse we sail to the north-west point. The district and tribe about there is called Marow. Through the hostility of the tribes from Mon-e-va-ove the Marow people have retired to their villages in the bush. Proceeding along the north coast a couple of miles we see a gap through the bush through which the natives drag their canoes overland into the large bay on the other side that is marked on the chart. A mile further east we see the village Mon-e-va-ove. A tree that he was felling killed a Chief here in April this year, and about the same time a man fell from a tree, and also several women died, so the Mon-e-va-ove people came to the conclusion that the Marow people had cast an evil spell over them. Now they are "talking fight," and the Marow have retired to their securest villages in the bush. The next village, Noo-gueg-i, is about six miles along the coast. A little to the west of it, almost undiscoverable as we sail along, is a canoe passage, through the mangroves to the large bay on the other side. The next place on the north coast is Oose-pe-mat-e, a very snug anchorage where in the old days many a whaler and trader got water. We are now in Wamena district. There are many villages in the bush belonging to this tribe. At the west corner of Richards Bay is the principal Wamena village, Kana-ki-boo-a, situated at the entrance of a

pretty little lagune. Many of the men speak very good English, some having been in Queensland, others in trading or labour schooners. On the left of the passage and facing the Wamena village are the four or five houses of the natives who escaped from the massacre at Guas-op, when the Wacoir surrounded the village at night and killed 13. The feud that was bound to ensue still exists, and the Wamena and Manemanena (the Laughlins) having made common cause with the refugees from Guas-op, they find their "natural" enemies in the Wacoir people. Yet we meet Wamena men who have married and settle down in Wacoir and who can be in safety in either tribe. From Kana-ki-booa, five or six miles to the north-east cape of Woodlark Island, and seven miles north-east, brings us to the extreme eastern point, but we have to go to the second small island off it (Sim-o-wah) to find a passage to the west through the reef. In all the eastern part of New Guinea there are no villages. The low island to the eastward is Noo-bara, on the road out to the Laughlins (Man-e-manena or Na-di), barren islands, but producing a great quantity of cocoanuts. I believe a German, called Charlie, is still there, making copra for Hernsheim and Co., of Matupi. Parties of Laughlin Islanders live for months on Woodlark Island, and return, their canoes loaded with taro and other "ki-ki," for which they pay cocoanuts. Coming west along the south coast of Woodlark Island the first indentation of the land is Wacoir Bay. This is the district of the enemies of Wamena, and two villages on the bay are named Koo-ma-row and Soo-a-ke-te, and the two most influential Chiefs are Ma-ma-di and Kwarma. The latter, who speaks a little English, is called Jim Canoe. The Wacoir people do not make long voyages, consequently they have no large canoes. This Wacoir Bay is shallow and without a good anchorage, and in dealing with these people it is more convenient to anchor in the next bay, where Guas-op is marked on the chart. Leaving Wacoir Bay and proceeding westward we pass a point and open the beautiful Guas-up harbour. Skirting the reef a little before we get to the first island, Le-au is the spot where years ago a French whaler was wrecked. Between the two islands Le-au and Wavi-ai is the passage through the reef. On the east side of the bay, near a conspicuous white tree, is where the ill-fated Guas-op stood. It was there the wrecked crew of the whaler lived, and whence they started in their boats. One boat's crew was killed on the north coast, but the man-of-war came and bombarded the bush about Guas-op, fortunately without doing any damage. The district of the west part of the bay is occupied by the Wumuda-muda tribe. They live in two villages on the coast and a number of small scattered ones, of four or five houses each, in the bush. Men-ari, the Chief of the village Koir-wata, speaks a little English. At Yow-bonis village, on the small harbour, is a powerful sorceress, who can bring wind, rain or fine weather, health or death. She has a blind son who is also supposed to possess supernatural powers. Before leaving here, be sure to taste the Woodlark special luxury, land crab. The natives

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will bring plenty from Wavi-ai. Continuing our course west, we can go inside the reef to the point abreast of Round Island. Inside the large island Mapasa is a harbour, smooth as a mill pond. There is a small village here, and on the ridge of the mountain where the cocoanut trees are growing are a few houses with three or four men. The Mapasa people have no gardens; their food is exclusively "rabiar." Natives of other places think Mapasa very poor. Johnnie, quite a young man, is Chief. Vessels going to the anchorage must go to the eastward of the island, the other passage is too shallow. Note! Send the natives for the splendid mangrove oysters (sim-ki-ote). Kwairgi is an inlet in the high land a couple of miles west of Suloga, the name of the highest mountain of the Woodlarks. Through the mangroves at the bottom of Quoirgi Bay is a canoe passage to a shallow lagoon behind. The Chief of Kwairgi is an old man, Tauro-ke-de. Leaving Kwairgi we pass all the high land, and a long narrow inlet into the low ground is seen. This inlet almost cuts the island in two, and is called Oo-ka-da-o. Lemons grow here, the seeds of which were left by a captain long ago. The navigation from here to Bugisse requires care on account of the reefs, and a vessel drawing much water will have to keep a long way out. The land is low, and there are but few villages at the end. This brings us back to the western end of the Woodlark Island with its long reef and islands. The islands to the north-west that stretch in a chain to the Trobriands are Garwa and Koir-wata and Dugu-menu, Ewa (Jouvency), and Kitawa (Jurien Islands)—all, except Dugumenu, inhabited. The chart of the Woodlark Group is very incorrect. Islands and reefs are down that have no existence now. It is useful only as a general idea of the group. There are two languages, the Murua or Mu-yua and the Tokuna; but as the people travel so much they understand many languages, particularly that used in the Engineer Group. Woodlark Island is called by the people on the south side, and all who live to the southward of it, Mu-rua; on the north coast and in the Trobriands, as Mu-yua.

W. WHITTON,
Master of the cutter "Albatross."

Cooktown, 5th June.

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NEW ZEALAND.

REPORT

BY THE

REGISTRAR GENERAL

ON THE

STATISTICS OF THE COLONY

FOR 1887.

(In continuation of [C.—5249.–2] March 1888, Colonial Report, No. 5.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
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No. 47.

NEW ZEALAND.

[In continuation of [C.—5249-2], March 1888, Colonial Report No. 5.]

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Registrar General's Office, Wellington,
29th October 1888.

SIR,

A DESIRE has been frequently expressed that a book should be issued from this department on the lines of the Victorian Year-Book. The objection entertained to so doing has been primarily one of expense. The permanent staff of the department is at present unable to overtake the ordinary work, and it is found necessary annually to employ extra clerical assistance in order to complete the current work of indexing. To compile a year-book such as that proposed would necessitate additional appointments to the staff, and would require that I should have more time at my disposal for the purpose than the present work admits of.

Besides this, it must not be overlooked that Mr. Hayter's Victorian Year Book is more than a local work. It is one embracing the statistics of all the Australian Colonies, and to attempt the compilation of a similar work for New Zealand would necessitate, to a large extent, the repetition of the information that appears in that book. To repeat the same information merely that it may issue from a department of this Colony is quite unnecessary as far as the public is concerned, as the Victorian Year Book, from its complete character, has become quite a book of reference on Australasian statistics.

I had, however, proposed discontinuing my annual report at the commencement of the statistical volume, and publishing it, instead, somewhat amplified, in a pamphlet form.

I have not, however, adopted that course, because I have recently received from England some copies of my last report printed verbatim by the English Government as a parliamentary paper, a new practice having been introduced (due doubtless to the greater consideration given to colonial questions) of publishing the colonial statistical reports in that form. If the substance of the report had appeared as a separate publication it seems probable that it would not have been dealt with in the same manner. The opportunity thus offered by the large circulation that is obtained by an Imperial parliamentary paper of distributing more widely in Great Britain some statistical information respecting this Colony is one that should not be neglected. I have for this reason not only continued the usual report, but have somewhat extended it, and I have also given a very concise sketch of

NEW ZEALAND. the discovery and early history of the settlement of the Colony, a description of its boundaries and area, and also, as an appendix to the report, a chronological statement of the principal events in its history.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. R. E. BROWN,
Registrar General.

STATISTICS OF NEW ZEALAND, 1887.

REPORT.

INTRODUCTORY.

Discovery and Early Settlement.

Discovery of New Zealand by Tasman.

The first authentic account of the discovery of New Zealand is that given by Abel Jansen Tasman, a Dutch navigator. He sailed from Batavia on the 14th August 1642 in the yacht "Heemskirk," accompanied by the "Zeehan" fly-boat. After having visited Mauritius and discovered Tasmania, named by him "Van Diemen's Land," in honour of Anthony Van Diemen, the Governor of the Dutch possessions in the East Indies, he sailed in an easterly direction, and on the 13th December of that year sighted the west coast of the Middle Island of New Zealand, described by him "as a high mountainous country, which is at "present marked in the charts as New Zealand."

It has been assumed as probable that the first European who visited New Zealand was Juan Fernandez, who, having started from one of the ports of the west coast of South America in 1576, after sailing for about a month in a south-westerly direction, reached a land described by him as fertile and pleasant, and inhabited by a race of white people well made, and dressed in a species of woven cloth; but people of brown complexions were often described as white by the Spaniards; and although there is no direct evidence that the land so discovered was New Zealand, yet no other appears to answer his description, unless it were Tonga. It appears, however, certain that the country was visited before the date of Tasman's arrival in 1642, as the land he came to was shown in the Dutch chart used by him, and was named thereon "Zeland Nova."

Tasman's visit.

Tasman, under the belief that the land he saw formed part of a great Polar continent, and was part of that country (subsequently found to be an island) discovered some years before by Schouten and Le Maire, to which the name of Staaten Land had been given, gave the same name of Staaten Land to New Zealand. He sailed along the coast to a bay, where he anchored. To this he gave the

name of Murderers (now Massacre) Bay, on account of an unprovoked attack on a boat's crew by the natives, and the massacre of four white men. Thence he sailed along the west coast of the North Island, and gave the name of Cape Maria Van Diemen to the north-western extremity thereof. After sighting the islands of the Three Kings he finally departed, never having set foot on the country.

Captain Cook's visits.

There is no record of any visit to New Zealand after Tasman's departure until that of Captain Cook's, who, after leaving the Society Islands, sailed in a southerly direction in search of a southern continent then believed to exist. He sighted land on the 6th October 1769, and on the 8th of that month cast anchor in Poverty Bay. After having circumnavigated the North Island and the Middle and Stewart Islands, the latter having been considered as part of the Middle Island, he sailed from Cape Farewell on the 31st March 1770 for Australia. He again visited New Zealand in 1773, in 1774, and in 1777.

Surville and Marion du Fresne.

M. de Surville, a French officer in command of the vessel "Saint Jean Baptiste," being on a voyage of discovery, sighted the north-east coast of New Zealand on the 12th December 1769, and remained for a short time. Another visit was shortly after paid by a French officer, a M. Marion du Fresne, who arrived on the west coast of New Zealand on the 24th March 1772, but was treacherously murdered by the natives on the 12th June following.

Lieut. Hanson's visit.

In 1793 the "Dædalus," under the command of Lieutenant Hanson, was sent by the Government of New South Wales to New Zealand, and two Chiefs were taken thence to Norfolk Island. There was after this an occasional intercourse between the islands of New Zealand and the English settlements in New South Wales.

Arrival of missionaries.

In 1814 the first missionaries arrived in New Zealand, Messrs. Hall and Kendall, who had been sent as forerunners to Mr. Marsden. After a short stay they returned to New South Wales, and on the 19th November of that year again embarked, in company with Mr. Marsden, who preached his first sermon in New Zealand on Christmas Day 1814, and returned to Sydney on the 23rd March 1815. It was not until 1821 that the work of evangelisation was put on a somewhat permanent basis; but the first station, established by Mr. Leigh, a Wesleyan missionary, and his wife, at the Valley of the Kaeo-Wangaroa, was not taken possession of until the 10th June 1823.

First attempts at colonisation.

The first attempt at colonisation was made in 1825 by a company formed in London. An expedition was sent out under the command of Captain Herd, who bought two islands in the Hauraki Gulf, and a strip of land at Hokianga. The attempt, however, was a failure, owing to the savage character of the inhabitants. In consequence of frequent visits of numerous whaling-vessels to the Bay of Islands, a settlement grew up at Kororareka, now called Russell, and in 1833 Mr. Busby was appointed British Resident there. A number of Europeans, generally men of low

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character, gradually settled in different parts of the country, and married native women.

The New Zealand Company.

In 1838 a colonisation company, known as the New Zealand Company, was formed to establish settlement on systematic principles. A preliminary expedition, under the command of Colonel William Wakefield, was despatched from England on the 12th May 1839. He arrived in New Zealand in the following August, and, having purchased the land from the natives, selected the shore of Port Nicholson, on Cook Strait, as the site of the first settlement. On the 22nd January 1840 the first body of immigrants arrived, and founded the Town of Wellington. About the same time, namely, on the 29th January 1840, Captain Hobson, R.M., arrived at the Bay of Islands, empowered, with the consent of the natives, to proclaim the sovereignty of the Queen over the Islands of New Zealand, and to assume the Government thereof. A treaty called "The Treaty of Waitangi," to which in less than six months five hundred and twelve names were affixed, was entered into, by which all rights and powers of sovereignty were ceded to the Queen, all territorial rights being secured to the Chiefs and their tribes. New Zealand was then constituted a dependency of the Colony of New South Wales, but on the 3rd May 1841 it was proclaimed a separate Colony. The seat of Government had been previously established at Auckland, round which a settlement was formed.

Settlement at Port Nicholson.

Sovereignty of Queen proclaimed.

Treaty of Waitangi.

New Zealand a separate Colony.

Settlements at Nelson and New Plymouth.

The New Zealand Company, having decided to form another settlement, to which the name of "Nelson" was to be given, despatched a preliminary expedition from England in April 1841 for the purpose of selecting a site, which resulted in the establishment of the settlement at the head of Blind Bay. About the same time a settlement was commenced at New Plymouth, by the arrival, on the 31st March 1841, of a body of immigrants despatched by the New Plymouth Company, a colonisation company that had been formed in England, and had purchased 50,000 acres of land from the New Zealand Company.

Otago Settlement.

The next important event in the progress of colonisation was the arrival at Port Chalmers in March 1848 of two ships containing immigrants, despatched by the Otago Association for the foundation of a settlement in that part of the Colony by persons who belonged to or were in sympathy with the Church of Scotland.

Canterbury Settlement.

In 1849 the "Canterbury Association for founding a settlement in New Zealand" was incorporated. On the 16th December 1850 the first emigrant ship despatched by the association arrived at Port Cooper, and the settlement of the adjoining country was commenced in a systematic manner; the intention having been to establish a settlement complete in itself, and composed entirely of members of the United Church of Great Britain and Ireland.

Representative Government granted, with six provinces.

The government of the Colony was at first vested in the Governor, who was responsible only to the Imperial Government, but in 1852 an Act was passed by the Imperial Legislature which granted representative institutions to the Colony. The Colony

was thereby divided into six provinces, each to be presided over by an elective superintendent, and to have an elective Provincial Council, empowered to legislate, except on certain specified subjects. The Act also provided for the constitution of a General Assembly for the whole Colony, consisting of a Legislative Council, the members of which were to be nominated by the Governor, and an elective House of Representatives. The first session of the General Assembly was opened on the 27th May 1854, but Responsible Government had not then been granted, the members of the Executive not being responsible to Parliament. The first Ministers under a system of Responsible Government were appointed on the 18th April 1856.

General Assembly.

The Provincial Governments remained as integral parts of the Constitution of the Colony until the 1st November 1876, when they were abolished by an Act of the General Assembly, that body having been vested with the power of altering the Constitution Act. On the same day an Act of the General Assembly which subdivided the Colony (exclusive of the areas included within municipalities) into counties, and established a system of local county government, came into operation.

Provincial Governments abolished in favour of local county government.

Boundaries and Area of the Colony.

The Proclamation of Captain Hobson on the 30th January 1840 gave as the boundaries of the Colony the following degrees of latitude and longitude :—

Boundaries.

On the north	- 34° 30′	-	south latitude.
On the south	- 47° 10′	-	south latitude.
On the east	- 179° 0′	-	east longitude.
On the west	- 166° 5′	-	east longitude.

These limits excluded small portions of the extreme north of the North Island, and of the extreme south of Stewart Island.

In April 1842, by Royal Letters Patent, the boundaries of the Colony were altered so as to extend from 33° to 53° of south latitude, and from 179° of east longitude to 173° of west longitude. By Proclamation bearing date the 21st July 1887 the Kermadec Islands, lying between the 29th and 32nd degrees of south latitude, and the 177th and 180th degrees of west longitude, were declared to be annexed to, and to become part of, the Colony of New Zealand :—

Area of New Zealand.

The following now constitute the Colony of New Zealand :—

1. The island commonly known as the North Island, with its adjacent islets, having an aggregate area of 44,467 square miles, or 28,459,580 acres.

2. The island known as the Middle Island, with adjacent islets, having an aggregate area of 58,525 square miles, or 37,456,080 acres.

3. The South or Stewart Island, and adjacent islands, having an area of 665 square miles, or 425,390 acres.

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4. The Chatham Islands, situate 536 miles eastward of Lyttelton, in the Middle Island, with an area of 375 square miles, or 239,920 acres.

5. The Auckland Islands, about 200 miles south of Stewart Island, extending about 30 miles from north to south, and nearly 15 from east to west, the area being 210,650 acres.

6. Campbell Islands, in latitude 52° 33′ south, and longitude 169° 8′ west, about 30 miles in circumference, with an area of 45,440 acres.

7. The Antipodes Islands, about 458 miles in a south-easterly direction from Port Chalmers, in the Middle Island. These are detached rocky islands, and extend over a distance of between 4 and 5 miles from north to south. Area, 12,960 acres.

8. The Bounty Islands, a small group of islets, 13 in number, lying north of the Antipodes Islands, and about 415 miles in nearly an east-south-easterly direction from Port Chalmers. Area, 3,300 acres.

9. The Kermadec Islands, a group of which the largest is called Sunday or Raoul Island, lie about 614 miles to the north-east of Russell, in the Bay of Islands. This island is about 12 miles in circuit. The next in size is Macauley Island, about 3 miles in circumference. Area of the group, 8,144 acres.

The total area of the Colony is thus about 104,471 square miles, of which the aggregate area of the outlying groups of islands that are practically useless for settlement amounts to about 438 square miles.

Areas of Australian Colonies.

The areas of the various Australian Colonies as given by different authorities differ considerably. Mr. Hayter, in his Victorian Year Book, gives the total area of the Australian Continent at 2,944,628 square miles, according to a computation made by the late Surveyor-General of Victoria, Mr. J. A. Skene, from a map of continental Australia, compiled and engraved under his direction; but, in the case of each Colony except Victoria, the area computed by Mr. Skene differs from that given in the official records of that Colony, the difference in the case of Western Australia amounting to over 84,000 square miles. The following areas are, therefore, taken from the official records of each Colony:—

	Square Miles.
Queensland - - - -	668,497
New South Wales - - -	310,700
Victoria - - - -	87,884
South Australia - - -	903,690
Western Australia - - -	1,060,000
Total Continent of Australia -	3,030,771
Tasmania - - - -	26,375
New Zealand (including the Chatham and other islands) - - -	104,471
Total Australasia - -	3,161,617

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Australia and European countries.

The size of these Colonies may be better realised by the comparison of their areas with those of European countries. The areas of the following countries, Austria-Hungary, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Portugal, Spain, Italy (including Sardinia and Sicily), Switzerland, Greece, Roumania, Bulgaria, Servia, Eastern Roumelia, and Turkey in Europe, amounting on the whole to less than 1,600,000 square miles, are little more than half the area of the Australian Continent. If the area of Russia in Europe be added to those of the other countries the total area would be about one-seventh larger than the Australian Continent, and about one-twelfth larger than that of the Australasian Colonies, including New Zealand. The area of the Colony of New Zealand is a little more than one-seventh less than the area of the United Kingdom and Ireland, the area of the Middle Island of New Zealand being a little larger than the combined areas of England and Wales.

United Kingdom.	Area in Square Miles.	New Zealand.	Area in Square Miles.
England and Wales -	58,311	North Island - -	44,468
Scotland - - -	30,463	Middle Island - -	58,525
Ireland - - -	32,531	Stewart Island -	665
		Chatham Islands - -	375
		Other islands - -	438
Total - -	121,305	Total - -	104,471

POPULATION.

PART II.

Population.

The population of the Colony is periodically estimated by adding the excess of births over deaths, and the excess of immigration over emigration, to the numbers ascertained at the previous census.

Census results.

The last New Zealand census was taken for the night of the 28th March 1886. It did not, however, include the enumeration of the Maori portion of the population, as the Census Act was not made applicable to the aboriginal natives; but, as very full and detailed returns were obtained from the various native officers of the numbers and ages of the natives in their several districts, it has been possible to ascertain with a considerable approach to accuracy the number of each sex of the Maori population in the early part of that year—1886. As, however, it is not incumbent

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on the Maoris to register the births or deaths that occur among themselves, it is not possible to make any correction for the purpose of an annual estimate of the number living; so that for each year between the dates of the various censuses it is necessary to reproduce the number of the natives ascertained in the previous census year in default of better information, although for years subsequent to the census that number is incorrect.

The population of the Colony, according to the census returns obtained in 1886, was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Population (other than Maoris or Chinese) - - - -	307,694	266,246	573,940
Chinese - - - - - -	4,527	15	4,542
Total (exclusive of Maoris) -	312,221	266,261	578,482
Maoris - - - - - -	22,840	19,129	41,969
Total population - -	335,061	285,390	620,451

Omitting the births and deaths of the Maoris, the natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths between the 28th March 1886 and the 31st December 1887 amounted to 23,246; the births registered in the period having been 33,820 in number, and the deaths 10,574.

During the same period the excess of immigration over emigration amounted to 2,633, the number of persons who arrived in the Colony having been 25,385, and the number who left 23,752.

Population, Dec., 1887.

The total estimated population on the 31st December 1887 was, on the basis of these numbers, as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Population (other than Maoris) -	324,558	278,803	603,361
Maoris as at census of 1886 - -	22,840	19,129	41,969
Total - - -	347,398	297,932	645,330

Population of different islands.

The following is the estimate of the population of the North, Middle, and Stewart Islands respectively, also of the Chatham Islands, on the 31st December 1887:—

North Island and adjacent islets (exclusive of Maoris) - - -	262,006
Maoris (as in 1886) - - -	39,717
Total North Island - -	301,723
Middle Island and adjacent islets (exclusive of Maoris) - - -	340,931
Maoris (as in 1886) - - -	1,906
Stewart Island (exclusive of Maoris) -	214
Maoris (as in 1886) - - -	151
Total Middle and Stewart Islands -	343,202
Chatham Islands (exclusive of Natives) -	210
Natives (as in 1886) - - -	195
Total Chatham Islands - -	405
Total for the Colony - -	645,330

Excess of births over deaths.

There is good reason to believe that very few of the births that take place among the population of European descent remain unregistered, and hardly any of the deaths. The number registered may be, therefore, taken to approximate very closely to the real number of these events. The following are the increases of population by excess of births over deaths for each of the past 10 years:—

1878 - - - - -	13,125
1879 - - - - -	12,487
1880 - - - - -	13,904
1881 - - - - -	13,241
1882 - - - -	13,308
1883 - - - - -	13,341
1884 - - - - -	14,106
1885 - - - - -	13,612
1886 - - - - -	13,164
1887 - - - - -	12,998

As persons who arrive at or leave the Colony can only do so by sea, it might be presumed that a correct return of all passengers was easily obtainable; but, as a matter of fact, the returns of passengers leaving were for many years somewhat deficient, in consequence of the numbers who left without having previously booked their passages. Owing to the efforts that have been made to deal with this question in a satisfactory manner the possible

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errors can now be but unimportant, and the returns received are believed to be nearly, it not quite, reliable.

Excess of immigration over emigration.

The following figures give the increase by immigration over emigration, according to the returns actually received, during the past 10 years :—

1878 - - - - -	10,502
1879 - - - - -	18,723
1880 - - - - -	7,231
1881 - - - - -	1,616
1882 - - - - -	3,489
1883 - - - - -	10,029
1884 - - - - -	9,321
1885 - - - - -	4,504
1886 - - - - -	1,064
1887 - - - - -	977

The small excess of immigration over emigration in 1886 and 1887 is owing to the depression that obtained in the Colony, and the exodus of population to the Australian Colonies to seek more profitable fields for employment.

In 1887 there was an excess of immigration from the United Kingdom of 2,820 persons over emigration thereto; but the number that left for the Australian Colonies was greater by 1,565 than the number that arrived from them.

Population of Australasian Colonies, 1887.

The estimated population of all the Australasian Colonies on the 31st December 1887 was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Queensland - - -	214,531	152,409	366,940
New South Wales - - -	574,012	468,907	1,042,919
Victoria - - - -	550,043	486,075	1,036,118
South Australia - - -	165,199	152,247	317,446
Western Australia - - -	24,807	17,681	42,488
Tasmania - - - -	76,245	66,233	142,478
New Zealand { European and Chinese -	324,558	278,803	603,361
New Zealand { Maoris - -	22,840	19,129	41,969
Totals - -	1,952,235	1,641,484	3,593,719

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The ascertained population of each of the Australasian Colonies at the census of 1881, the estimated number at the end of 1887, and the per-centage of increase during the interval are herewith given :—

Increase since census 1881.

	Population as at Census of April 3, 1881.	Estimated Population, Dec. 31, 1887.	Numerical Increase.	Per-centage of Increase.	Average Annual Rate of Increase per cent.
Queensland - - -	213,525	366,940	153,415	71·85	10·64
New South Wales - -	751,468*	1,042,919	291,451	34·79	5·15
Victoria - - - -	862,346†	1,036,118	173,772	20·15	2·99
South Australia - - -	279,865	317,446	37,581	13·43	1·99
Western Australia - -	29,708	42,488	12,780	43·02	6·37
Total Australia - -	2,136,912	2,805,911	668,999	31·31	4·62
Tasmania - - - -	115,705	142,478	26,773	23·14	3·42
New Zealand { European and Chinese	489,933	603,361	113,428	23·15	3·43
New Zealand { Maoris - - -	44,097	41,969	− 2,128	− 4·82	− ·71
Total Australasia -	2,786,647	3,593,719	807,072	28·96	4·29

Proportions of sexes in New Zealand.

Excluding the Maori population, the females in the Colony were, on the 31st December 1887, in the proportion of 85·90 to every 100 males. There is a steady and progressive increase in the proportion of females to males, owing to the increase of the younger portion of the population in nearly equal numbers as to sex, thus reducing the proportion of the excess of adult single males. At the census of 1881 the proportions were 81·72 females to 100 males; at the census of 1886 the proportions were 85·28 females to 100 males; at the end of 1887 the proportions were 85·90 females to 100 males.

Proportions of sexes in Australasian Colonies.

There is an excess of males over females in all the Australasian Colonies. The following were the proportions in 1887 :—

	Females to every 100 Males.
Queensland - - - -	71·04
New South Wales - - -	81·69
Victoria - - - - -	88·37
South Australia - - - -	92·16
Western Australia - - -	71·27
Tasmania - - - -	86·87
New Zealand - - - -	85·90

* Aborigines included, 1,643.
† Aborigines included, 780.

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Birthplaces of the people.

The following table gives the birthplaces of the people according to the census returns of 1886:—

Where born.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Persons. Proportions per cent.
British Possessions—				
New Zealand - - -	150,513	149,677	300,190	51·89
Australian Colonies - -	8,502	8,743	17,245	2·98
England and Wales - -	73,608	54,030	127,638	22·06
Scotland - - -	31,752	23,058	54,810	9·48
Ireland - - - -	27,932	23,476	51,408	8·89
Other British possessions -	2,344	1,609	3,953	·68
Foreign Countries—				
Germany - - -	3,255	1,752	5,007	·86
Denmark and possessions -	1,417	761	2,178	·38
Sweden and Norway - -	2,144	633	2,777	·48
France and possessions - -	551	235	786	·14
China - - - -	4,532	18	4,550	·79
Other countries - - -	3,395	1,192	4,587	·79
At sea and not specified -	2,276	1,077	3,353	·58
Total -	312,221	266,261	578,482	100

In 1886 more than one half of the population (51·89 per cent.) were born in the Colony. In 1881 the proportion was 45·60 per cent.

Religious denominations.

The following table gives a summary of the results of the census of 1886 regarding the religions of the people, also the proportion of each denomination at each of the four last censuses:—

Principal Denomination.	No. of Adherents in 1886.	Proportions per cent. of Population.			
		1874.	1878.	1881.	1886.
Church of England and Protestants undefined - -	232,369	42·45	42·55	41·50	40·17
Presbyterians - - -	130,643	24·19	22·95	23·08	22·59
Wesleyan Methodists - -	45,164	7·59	7·79	8·07	7·81
Other Methodists - -	10,128	·82	1·35	1·46	1·74
Baptists - - - -	14,357	2·12	2·21	2·34	2·48
Congregational Independents -	7,787	1·82	1·34	1·37	1·35
Lutherans - - - -	5,917	1·31	1·36	1·18	1·02
Salvation Army - - -	5,276	—	—	—	·91
Society of Friends - -	282	·05	·04	·05	·05

Principal Denomination.	No. of Adherents in 1886.	Proportions per cent. of Population.			
		1874.	1878.	1881.	1886.
Unitarians - - - -	466	·12	·11	·10	·08
Other Protestants - -	8,951	·90	1·08	1·26	1·55
Roman Catholics and Catholics undefined - - -	80,667	13·48	14·21	14·08	13·94
Greek Church - - -	48	·01	·02	·01	·01
Jews - - - - -	1,559	·41	·34	·31	·27
Pagans - - - - -	4,472	1·59	1·05	1·01	·77
Other denominations - -	619	·08	·05	·11	·10
No denomination - - -	6,046	·43	·53	·89	1·05
No religion - - -	973	·05	·05	·06	·17
Not described - - -	2,869	·32	·42	·27	·50
Object to state - - -	19,889	2·26	2·55	2·85	3·44
Total - - -	578,482	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

The ascertained Protestants in New Zealand in 1886 amounted to 79·75 per cent. of the whole population. This, however, may be deemed to be considerably below the real proportion, as the persons who object to state their belief are generally Protestants of various denominations, having objections to being compelled to give the information.

The proportion of Roman Catholics is much greater in Australia than in Zealand. At the census of 1881 it was 27·63 per cent. in New South Wales, 25·47 per cent. in Queensland, 23·60 in Victoria, and 15·23 per cent. in South Australia.

Information as to the ages of the people is only obtained when a census is taken.

Ages of the people.

The following shows the number of males and females at each of the age-periods stated, and the proportion of persons at each age-period to the 100 of population at all ages, at the last census :—

Ages.	Males.	Females.	Total Persons.	Proportion of Persons at each Age-period to every 100 Total Population.
Under 5 years - - -	43,820	43,008	86,828	15·01
5 and under 10 years - - -	42,524	41,791	84,315	14·58
10 and under 15 years - -	34,065	33,320	67,385	11·65
15 and under 21 years - -	34,309	35,272	69,581	12·03
21 and under 40 years - -	86,028	69,464	155,492	26·88
40 and under 55 years - -	50,830	30,891	81,721	14·13
55 and under 65 years - -	12,857	7,579	20,436	3·53
65 and upwards - - -	6,003	4,430	10,433	1·80
Unspecified - - - -	1,785	506	2,291	·39
Total - - -	312,221	266,261	578,482	100·00

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Of the proportion of unspecified persons, ·37 consisted of those evidently over 21 years of age. Thus, of the total population (exclusive of Maoris) 53·26 per cent. were under 21 years of age. Dealing with the sexes separately, 57·64 per cent. of the females were under 21, but only 49·57 per cent. of the males were under 21. At each year of age under 15, except at the years 1 to 2, and 12 to 13, the males were more numerous than the females; but between the years 15 to 20 the females were more numerous than the males. At 20 to 21 the males were in the minority, but at all ages above 21 the males were most numerous.

Numbers at the supporting ages.

The proportion of persons at the ages of 15 to 65, called the supporting-ages, steadily diminished until 1881, since then it has increased. The following were the numbers per 10,000 of the population at each of the census years 1874, 1878, 1881, and 1886:—

	1874.	1878.	1881.	1886.
Under 15 years - - -	4,150	4,222	4,244	4,126
15 to 65 years - - -	5,728	5,649	5,615	5,694
65 years and upwards - -	122	129	141	180
Total - -	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

The increase at the age-period, 15 to 65, is attributable to an increased proportion at the ages 15 to 21, for at the higher portion of the period, 21 to 65 years, the proportion is still diminishing.

	1881.	1886.
15 to 21 years - - - -	1,040	1,203
21 to 65 years - - - -	4,575	4,491

The proportion of persons at the supporting-ages (15 to 65 years) per 10,000 of the population is smaller in New Zealand than in any other of the Australasian Colonies, and, with the exception of Queensland, the proportion of aged persons is least in New Zealand. On the other hand, the proportion of children under 15 is much higher than in either of the other Colonies.

The following shows the proportion per 10,000 living at each of the several age-periods mentioned in the Australasian Colonies respectively, and in England:—

Proportions of person at different age-periods.

	Under 15 Years.	15 to 65 Years.	65 Years and upwards.
New Zealand, 1886 - - -	4,126	5,694	180
New South Wales, 1881 - -	3,987	5,768	245
Queensland, 1886 - - -	3,348	6,527	125
Victoria, 1881 - - - -	3,847	5,908	245
South Australia, 1881 - - -	3,885	5,879	236
Western Australia, 1881 - -	3,855	5,891	254
Tasmania, 1881 - - - -	3,811	5,702	487
England, 1881 - - - -	3,645	5,897	458

Males at the Militia age.

The ages at which males in New Zealand are liable to serve in the Militia are between 17 and 55 years—viz., between 17 and 30 years in the first class, between 30 and 40 years in the second class, and between 40 and 55 years in the third class.

Basing an estimate on the numbers living at each period of age in 1886 there were at the end of 1887 (exclusive of Chinese and Maoris):—

Males from 17 to 30 years of age -	68,190
„ 30 „ 40 „ -	41,911
„ 40 „ 55 „ -	51,285
Total - -	161,386

From this total the adult foreigners who were not naturalised should be deducted. The male foreigners (exclusive of Chinese) who were not British subjects numbered 9,177 in 1886. Doubtless these were chiefly adults. The above number of 161,386 may be therefore reduced by, say, 8,000, to represent the number of males at the Militia ages. The total at these ages would thus be 153,386.

Females at reproductive ages.

Of the 266,261 females enumerated at the census of 1886, the ages of 265,755 were given. Of these, 117,890, equal to 44·36 per cent., were at the reproductive ages between 15 and 45. This proportion is, with two exceptions, lower than that which obtains in any of the Australasian Colonies.

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The following is the proportion of females in the Australasian Colonies between the ages of 15 to 45 to every 100 females at all ages :—

South Australia, 1881 - - -	45·61
Victoria, 1881 - - - -	45·40
New South Wales, 1881 - - -	45·09
Queensland, 1886 - - - -	47·42
Tasmania, 1881 - - - -	44·34
Western Australia, 1881 - - -	44·04
New Zealand, 1886 - - -	44·36

In England and Wales the proportion in 1881 was as high as 49·45 per cent. of the total females, the numbers having been 6,593,480 females at the ages 15 to 45, out of a total of 13,334,537 females at all ages.

Conjugal condition of the people.

In 1886, of the 307,964 males (exclusive of Maoris and Chinese), 215,429, or 70·01 per cent., were stated to be not married, and of the female population 171,857, or 64·55 per cent., were unmarried; 66,014 of the unmarried males were over 20 years of age, and 53,675 of the unmarried females were over 15 years of age. There were, thus, 12,339 bachelors over 20 years of age in excess of the number of spinsters over 15 years of age. This shows a very remarkable alteration in the relative numbers since 1881, as in that year there were 22,997 bachelors over 20 years of age in excess of the number of spinsters over 15 years of age.

Of the 53,675 spinsters over 15 years of age, 28,669 were from 15 to 20 years of age, 15,077 from 20 to 25 years of age, 6,883 from 25 to 35 years of age, and 3,046 over 35 years of age.

The number of spinsters in 1881 who were over 25 years of age was 6,649. The ratio of increase in the number of spinsters over 25 years of age between the censuses of 1881 and 1886 was 33 per cent., while the whole population only increased by 18 per cent. during the same time.

Widowers and widows.

The widows in 1886 numbered 9,764, and the widowers 6,253. At all ages the widows were more numerous than the widowers. The following were the relative proportions of widowers to every 100 widows in 1881 and 1886 :—

——	1881.	1886.
Under 30 years - - - - -	43 widowers	50 widowers.
30 to 50 years - - - -	69 „	60 „
50 years and upwards - - -	69 „	64 „

Fertility of women.

In the 12 months ending the 30th September 1886 there were 19,018 legitimate births. The number of married women at 15

to 45 years of age at the census in March 1886 was 62,704. This gives an average of 330 wives to each 100 children born, or deducting 180 children, so as to treat each birth of twins as one birth, the average was 333 wives to 100 births, or an average of one birth to each wife in every 3·33 years. This shows a slight decrease on the fertility brought out by the census of 1881, when the average was one birth in every 3·14 years; but the lessened fertility is accompanied by an increase in the average age of the wives.

The proportions of married women under 20 years of age and from 20 to 35 years are steadily decreasing, while the proportion from 35 to 45 years is increasing; the relative proportions approximating gradually to those that obtain in England.

Married women at age-periods.

The following are the proportions of married women at the ages given to every 100 married women at the ages of 15 to 45 :—

	England.	New Zealand.		
	1881.	1878.	1881.	1886.
Under 20 years - - -	1·10	2·45	2·16	1·81
20 and under 35 years - -	59·32	61·90	60·53	60·03
35 and under 45 years - -	39·58	35·65	37·31	38·16
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Principal towns and suburbs.

There is not in New Zealand, as in each of the other Australasian Colonies, one metropolitan centre of population, overshadowing, by comparison, the other towns of the Colony. The configuration of the country made it specially adapted for the establishment of settlements comparatively remote from one another. As a result, several minor centres of population grew up, which became rival provincial capitals. The principal towns or boroughs are those of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

Auckland borough, situate on the northern portion of the North Island, had in March 1886 a population of 33,161. The population of the suburbs amounted to 23,887. The data supplied for estimating the population of Auckland borough at the end of 1887 were evidently erroneous; but the estimate of the population at the middle of 1888 amounts to 35,639.

Wellington borough, situate on the borders of Port Nicholson, at the southern extremity of the North Island, and the seat of Government, had at the end of 1887 a population estimated at 28,235 persons. The suburbs of Wellington contained in March 1886 a population amounting to 1,888 persons.

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The borough of Christchurch, in the Canterbury district of the Middle Island, contained on the 21st December 1887 a population estimated at 16,217 persons. The population of the suburbs amounted in March 1886 to 29,423.

The population of the borough of Dunedin, the capital of the former province of Otago, was estimated at the end of 1887 at 24,334. The suburban population amounted in March 1886 to 22,275.

The suburbs of Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin largely consist of adjacent boroughs.

Immigration.

The number of persons who arrived in the Colony in 1887 was 13,689. In the immigration returns all persons above 12 years of age are classified as adults, those under 12 as children. On that basis the adults who arrived numbered 11,987, viz.: 8,380 males and 3,607 females. The number of children was 1,702; of these, 844 were males and 858 females.

Of those who arrived, 4,906 came from the United Kingdom, 3,781 from Victoria, 3,751 from New South Wales and Queensland, 4 from South and Western Australia, 499 from Tasmania, 230 from Fiji, 383 from Hawaii and the South Seas (these include the through passengers from San Francisco), and 135 from other ports.

Nominated and small farm immigrants.

There was no free immigration in 1887, but 1,286 persons arrived, the cost of whose passage was partially paid for by the Government. These consisted either of nominated immigrants, or persons who arrived under the regulations for the introduction of small farmers.

The number of immigrants who were nominated by friends in the Colony, and who were introduced partially at the Government expense, was 1,115, of whom 519 were English, 336 Irish, and 213 Scotch, being a total of 1,068 from the United Kingdom. In addition there were 10 Germans, 7 Danes, 5 Swedes, 16 Norwegians, and 9 of other nationalities.

Terms of nomination.

The terms of nomination are, that for each nominated immigrant, being an adult, and whose nomination is accepted by the Government, 10*l.*, and for each child between the ages of one year and 12 years, 5*l.* must be paid in the Colony by friends of the immigrant.

Terms for small-farm immigrants.

Regulations have been made for the Agent-General to provide passages for small farmers and their families at the same rates as are required to be paid for nominated immigrants, conditionally on proof being given that each head of a family is possessed of 100*l.* in cash, and of an additional 50*l.* for each member over 12 years of age.

The number of persons that arrived under these regulations in 1887 was 171, of whom 58 were adult males (*i.e.*, over 12 years of age), and 42 were adult females. The number of families was 42. The aggregate amount of capital possessed by them on arrival in New Zealand was 20,445*l.*, or an average of about 487*l.* for each family.

The number of Chinese who arrived in the Colony in 1887 was 354.

Chinese immigration.

In 1881 an Act was passed imposing a tax of 10*l.* on every Chinese landing in the Colony, except in the case of any one of the crew of a vessel who might not remain in the Colony. The object of the Act was to limit the introduction of Chinese. Its effect at first was almost to put a stop to the immigration of such persons, the number that arrived having been exceedingly small. The numbers arriving, as shown below, have increased during the past two years, although still unimportant in magnitude:—

Tax on Chinese.

1878	1,025
1879	329
1880	296
1881	1,029
1882	23
1883	44
1884	84
1885	94
1886	239
1887	354

The number of Chinese in the Colony at the census of 1881 was 5,004. In 1886 the number was reduced to 4,542. Since the date of the census the arrivals have exceeded the departures in number by 157. During the same period there were 56 deaths of Chinese. The number in the Colony on the 31st December 1887 was thus 4,643, of whom 18 were females.

Total immigration in 10 years.

The total immigration during the last 10 years amounted to 161,232 persons of all nationalities; of these 127,720 were unassisted, and 33,512 came out either wholly or partially at the public expense.

Emigration in 1887.

The number of persons whose departures from the Colony in 1887 were recorded was 12,712, of whom 8,434 were males and 4,278 were females, inclusive of 1,942 children under 12 years of age. Of these, 2,086 went direct to the United Kingdom, 4,472 to Victoria, 4,780 to New South Wales and Queensland, six to South and Western Australia, 342 to Tasmania, 147 to Fiji, 751 to Hawaii and the South Seas, including those who went to America *viâ* San Francisco, and 128 to other ports.

Excess of immigration over emigration.

The gain to the population by the excess of immigration over emigration in the year 1887 was only 977; while the arrivals from the United Kingdom were more numerous than the departures thither by 2,820. There was a loss of population through excess of emigration to Victoria of 691, and to New South Wales and Queens-

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land of 1,029. The information is presented in the following tabular form:—

Country.	Arrivals therefrom.	Departures thereto.	Excess of Immigration.	Excess of Emigration.
United Kingdom - - - -	4,906	2,086	2,820	—
New South Wales and Queensland - -	3,751	4,780	—	1,029
Victoria - - - - -	3,781	4,472	—	691
South and Western Australia - -	4	6	—	2
Tasmania - - - - -	499	342	157	—
Fiji - - - - - -	230	147	83	—
Hawaii and South Seas - - -	383	751	—	368
Other ports - - - -	135	128	7	—
Totals - - -	13,689	12,712	977	—

Immigration and emigration in 10 years.

The following table shows the arrivals from, and the departures to, the United Kingdom, the Australian Colonies, and Tasmania, and other places for the past 10 years:—

	United Kingdom.		Australian Colonies and Tasmania.		Other Places.	
	Arrivals from.	Departures to.	Arrivals from.	Departures to.	Arrivals from.	Departures to.
1878 - - -	9,209	838	6,348	4,316	706	607
1879 - - -	16,735	657	6,413	4,152	809	425
1880 - - -	8,514	683	5,899	6,506	741	734
1881 - - -	3,507	669	5,579	6,757	602	646
1882 - - -	3,205	464	6,975	6,297	765	695
1883 - - -	10,398	912	8,056	7,434	761	840
1884 - - -	9,860	1,457	9,064	8,171	1,097	1,072
1885 - - -	7,241	1,857	7,899	9,103	1,059	735
1886 - - -	6,893	2,385	8,133	11,686	1,075	966
1887 - - -	4,906	2,086	8,035	9,600	748	1,026
Totals -	80,468	12,008	72,401	74,022	8,363	7,746

The returns of the Board of Trade do not distinguish between the departures for New Zealand and those for Australia. The total departures for Australasia alone are given. In 1887 these amounted to 35,198. As the total arrivals in New Zealand direct

from the United Kingdom amounted in 1887 to 4,906, it would appear that 13·94 per cent., or nearly one-seventh, of the emigration from the United Kingdom to Australasia was in that year directed to New Zealand.

Proportions of English immigrants coming to New Zealand.

The proportions of those immigrants who come to New Zealand vary considerably from year to year, and are largely affected by the extent to which the various colonies are carrying on a system of free immigration.

	Emigration from United Kingdom to Australasia.	Arrivals in New Zealand from United Kingdom.	Arrivals in New Zealand per 100 Departures for Australasia from United Kingdom.
1878 - -	37,214	9,209	24·75
1879 - -	42,178	16,735	39·67
1880 - -	25,438	8,514	33·47
1881 - -	24,093	3,507	14·55
1882 - -	38,604	3,205	8·30
1883 - -	73,017	10,398	14·24
1884 - -	45,944	9,860	21·46
1885 - -	40,689	7,241	17·80
1886 - -	44,055	6,893	15·65
1887 - -	35,198	4,906	13·94

Immigration and emigration to Australasian Colonies.

The following shows the immigration and emigration for each of the Australasian Colonies for the year 1887, distinguishing the assisted from the unassisted immigrants. As there is no record of the numbers who travel overland from one Australian Colony to another, the numbers refer only to those who arrive or depart by sea:—

	Immigrants by Sea.		Total.	Emigrants by Sea.	Excess of Immigration or Emigration.
	Unassisted.	Assisted.			
Queensland - - -	22,993	9,400	32,393	16,414	15,979
New South Wales - -	66,243	1,362	67,605	44,089	23,516
Victoria - - - -	90,147	—	90,147	68,121	22,026
South Australia - - -	15,468	—	15,468	17,667	– 2,199
Western Australia - -	4,450	—	4,450	2,400	2,050
Tasmania - - - -	14,797	183	14,980	12,288	2,692
New Zealand - - -	12,403	1,286	13,689	12,712	977
Totals - -	226,501	12,231	238,732	173,691	65,041

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Naturalisation of aliens.

Aliens residing in the Colony may, on taking the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty, obtain letters of naturalisation, which entitle them to all the rights and capacities which a natural-born subject of the United Kingdom can enjoy or transmit within the Colony.

Every resident alien friend who is not naturalised is permitted, in terms of the Aliens Act of 1880, to inherit or otherwise take by representation, acquire, hold, convey, assign, devise, bequeath or otherwise dispose of every description of property, whether real or personal, in the same manner as if he were a natural-born subject of Her Majesty.

The following is a list of the number of aliens of each nationality who have been naturalised in each of the last 10 years:—

——	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	Total.
Austria* - - -	3	7	1	15	10	2	5	3	4	19	69
Belgium - - -	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	5
China - - -	—	6	2	9	26	28	20	11	20	18	140
Denmark - -	11	9	4	16	17	41	68	43	38	89	336
France - - -	3	1	2	2	6	6	8	1	8	11	48
Germany† - -	31	28	27	44	41	46	105	80	53	204	659
Greece - - -	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	2	7
Holland - - -	2	3	2	1	—	1	2	2	—	8	21
Hungary - -	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	5
Italy - - -	3	4	—	—	2	8	13	3	4	24	61
Norway - - -	10	1	6	9	5	11	40	16	22	36	156
Portugal‡ - -	3	—	1	2	2	—	3	—	3	3	17
Poland - - -	—	1	3	1	1	3	—	—	1	2	12
Russia—											
Russia - - -	1	1	1	—	1	—	3	2	3	5	17
Finland - -	1	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	1	10	19
South America - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Sweden - - -	11	5	4	8	11	14	55	20	22	61	211
Switzerland - -	1	—	2	4	5	2	19	3	13	24	73
United States - -	3	—	1	4	—	—	—	1	5	—	14
West Indies - -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other places - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Totals - -	84	66	57	115	128	168	349	187	199	524	1,877

The Germans comprised the largest number (659) of any nationality naturalised during the decade; but if those persons of the three nationalities—Swedes, Norwegians, and Danes—be grouped under one common term of Scandinavian, then the

* Includes Bohemia.
† Includes Bavaria and various German states; also the Hanseatic free towns.
‡ Includes the Azores and Madeira.

number under that head naturalised (703) would be greater than that of the Germans.

The number of Chinese naturalised has, in proportion to the previous numbers, considerably increased since 1881, when the Act imposing a tax of 10*l.* per head on Chinese immigrants was passed. Of those naturalised, about 41 per cent. were described as merchants and store-keepers, 27 per cent. as gardeners, about 9 per cent. were miners, and 7 per cent. were cooks. Only 5 were described as farmers.

Representation.

The number of members of the General Assembly at the end of 1887 was 142. Of these, 47 were members of the Legislative Council, holding their seats under writs of summons from the Governor, the appointments being for life, unless vacated by resignation or extended absence. Two of the members of the Legislative Council were aboriginal native chiefs. The number of the members of the House of Representatives, who are elected for a period of three years, was 95; of these, 91 were representatives of European electorates, and 4 of native electorates; three members of the Maori districts being aboriginal natives, and one a half-blood between European and Maori.

The proportion of representatives, members of Parliament or Congress, to population in each of the Australian Colonies (exclusive of Maori members and Maori population in New Zealand) and in the countries named, was as follows:—

Country.	Year.	Population.	No. of Members.	Average Number of Population to each Member.
New Zealand - -	1887	603,361	91*	6,630
New South Wales - -	„	1,042,919	124	8,410
Queensland - - -	„	366,940	59	6,219
Victoria - - -	„	1,036,118	86	12,048
South Australia - -	„	317,446	52	6,104
Tasmania - - -	„	142,478	36	3,958
United Kingdom - -	1886	37,707,418	670	56,280
France - - -	„	38,218,903	568	67,287
United States - -	1885	56,785,456	325	174,724
Canada - - -	„	4,491,010	215	20,888

The Native Race.

According to the traditions of the Maoris, their ancestors first arrived in the Colony from an island in the Pacific Ocean, to

* Not including the members of four Maori districts.

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which the name of Hawaiki is given. Since that event it appears, from the genealogical sticks kept by the tohungas or priests, that about 20 generations of the race have lived.

Maori census.

The number of the Maori race at the time of the first foundation of the Colony was estimated at about 80,000. Twenty years previously the number had been estimated at 100,000. In 1857 an enumeration of the race was made, from which it appeared that the number of males was then about 31,667, and that of the females about 24,303, and of those whose sex was not stated 79; a total of 56,049. Subsequent attempts at enumeration have been made; but, owing to the objections felt by natives to stating their numbers, and to the difficulties experienced in obtaining information in those parts to which the European was not allowed free access, with not wholly satisfactory results. The latest, and probably most accurate, of these enumerations was made in 1886. This gave the number of the males at 22,840, and the females at 19,129; a total of 41,969.

Decrease in native population.

That there has been a serious decrease in the numbers of the race of late years is the general opinion of all competent to judge, and a consideration of the numbers of each sex, and the proportion living at each age-period, leads to the conclusion that in all probability the decrease is still progressive.

In 1886 the proportion of females was 83·75 to every 100 males. In the European portion of the population the proportion was 85·28 females to 100 males. The proportions are not relatively comparable, as the excess of European males over females is caused by immigration; but there is no external cause to account for the Maori males being more numerous than the females. In the European portion of the population, under 20 years of age, the proportion was 100 males to 99 females; in the Maori population under 20 the proportion was 100 males to 87 females.

The males under 15 years of age were in the proportion of 31·82 to every 100 of the male population, and the similar proportion among the females was 33·59, these being less than the proportions in 1881—an evidence of a low birth-rate, or high juvenile mortality, leading to a racial decrease.

On comparing the proportions living at each quinquennium under 20 and each decennium above that period with the corresponding proportions in the population of England and that of the New-Zealand European it is found that at all ages under 20 the proportions among the Maoris are far less than among the other two populations, and at each age-period above 40 the Maori proportions are far larger. It is of course a fair inference that the causes of these larger proportions at the higher age-periods are two-fold—namely, a low birth-rate and a high death-rate among the younger members of the community. This is borne out by the much smaller proportions of young children to those in either the English or New-Zealand European communities.

The smaller proportion of female (83·75) to males (100) also shows a greater mortality among the adult females than among the males, as at ages under 20 42·29 per cent. of the females living

were under 20 years of age, but only 39·70 per cent. of the males were under 20. The manifest decrease in the numbers of the race is much to be regretted, for the Maoris show great aptitude for civilisation, and they possess fine characteristics both mental and physical, and rapidly adopt the manners and customs of their civilised neighbours. In mental qualifications they can hardly be deemed as naturally an inferior race, and the native members of both the Legislative Council and the House of Representatives take a dignified, active, and intelligent part in the debates, especially in those having any reference to Maori interests.

The Maoris contribute largely to the taxation of the country through the Customs duties, and, having regard to the relations now subsisting between the races, they may be regarded as constituting an important element of strength in the population of the Colony.

TRADE AND INTERCHANGE.

Shipping.

The shipping in 1887 amounted to 653 vessels inwards, of an aggregate of 489,754 tons, and to 675 vessels outwards, of an aggregate of 493,583 tons. The number of vessels was less than in any one year since 1861; but the tonnage has only been exceeded by that in the four years 1883–86 inclusive. The diminution in the number of vessels is caused by the larger class now employed in the trade, and by the establishment of lines of ocean steamers of large size. In 1863 the number of vessels that arrived was 1,154, of 419,935 tonnage, equal to an average of 364 tons per vessel. In 1887 the similar average was 750 tons per vessel. The records kept do not distinguish between steam and sailing vessels in the earlier year, but few, if any, of the 1,154 vessels were steam vessels. In 1887, 213, or about 33 per cent., of the shipping inwards consisted of steam vessels, of an average of 1,379 tons.

The following table gives the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in New Zealand during the past 10 years:—

Year.	Vessels Inwards.		Vessels Outwards.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1878 - - -	926	456,490	886	428,493
1879 - - -	894	473,940	908	475,752
1880 - - -	730	395,675	786	424,041
1881 - - -	765	420,134	762	413,487
1882 - - -	795	461,285	769	438,551
1883 - - -	805	494,926	851	507,565
1884 - - -	852	529,188	872	534,242
1885 - - -	786	519,700	780	513,000
1886 - - -	725	509,572	707	488,331
1887 - - -	653	489,754	675	493,583

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The tonnage of the shipping inwards in 1887 was less by 39,434 than in 1884, the year in which the tonnage was greatest.

Of the shipping inwards and outwards in 1887, 17 per cent. of the vessels, having a proportion of 29 per cent. of the tonnage, were British; 73 per cent. of the vessels, with a proportion of 57 per cent. of the tonnage, were colonial; and 10 per cent. of the vessels, having a proportion of 14 per cent. of the tonnage, were foreign. The following are the respective numbers, with the number of the crews:—

Nationality.	Vessels Inwards.			Vessels Outwards.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
British - - -	109	144,482	4,202	113	142,890	4,070
Colonial - - -	472	275,085	11,828	494	282,499	12,098
Foreign - - -	72	70,187	3,056	68	68,194	2,987
Totals - -	653	489,754	19,086	675	493,583	19,155

Proportion of crew to tonnage.

Dealing with the shipping as a whole, the crews of the British shipping gave one man to every 35 tons; of the colonial shipping, one man to every 23 tons; and of the foreign shipping, one man to every 23 tons. The proportion of crew to tonnage is largely affected by the size of the vessel and by the character of the vessel, whether sailing or steam:—

Nationality.	All Vessels, Inwards and Outwards.	
	Average Size.	Average No. of Tons to each of the Crews.
	Tons.	
British - - - -	1294·47	34·75
Foreign - - - -	988·44	22·86
Colonial - - - -	577·21	23·30

The foreign vessels, although larger in average size, appear to have been slightly better manned according to tonnage than the colonial; but, if the particulars are taken for the sailing and steam vessels separately, it is found that the colonial sailing vessels have proportionately the largest crews; but the crews of the steam vessels are proportionately somewhat smaller. The British vessels of both kinds had, in proportion to tonnage, much smaller crews than the colonial or foreign vessels. The British vessels, however,

being far greater, require, in proportion to tonnage, fewer hands :—

Nationality.	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.	
	Average Size.	Average Number of Tons per Man of the Crews.	Average Size.	Average Number of Tons per Man of the Crews.
	Tons.		Tons.	
British - -	901·44	45·28	2,646·48	27·29
Foreign -	474·50	40·00	1,832·07	19·38
Colonial -	309·87	34·45	1,119·42	19·72

The British sailing vessels, which are on an average more than double the size of the foreign or colonial vessels, had an average of 22 men per 1,000 tons; the foreign sailing vessels had 25 per 1,000 tons; and the colonial sailing vessels had 29 men per 1,000 tons.

The British steam vessels, which were the largest, averaged 36·6 men per 1,000 tons; the foreign, the next in size, averaged 51·6; and the colonial vessels, of an average size less than one third of the British, had 50·7 men per 1,000 tons.

The following table gives the number, tonnage, and crews of steamers and sailing vessels that entered and cleared in 1886 and 1887 :—

Description.	1886.			1887.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Entered.						
Steamers - - -	212	282,772	13,597	213	293,829	14,025
Sailing vessels - -	513	219,800	5,928	440	195,925	5,061
Totals - -	725	502,572	19,525	653	489,754	19,086
Cleared.						
Steamers - - -	205	279,735	13,448	209	292,691	13,941
Sailing vessels - -	502	208,596	5,604	466	200,892	5,214
Totals - -	707	488,331	19,052	675	493,583	19,155

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The following are the numbers and tonnage of the vessels of each foreign nationality that entered and cleared in 1887:—

Nationality.	Sailing or Steam.	Vessels entered.	Tonnage.	Vessels cleared.	Tonnage.
American - - -	Sailing -	13	6,754	14	7,142
„ - - -	Steam -	17	32,963	17	32,963
French - - - -	Sailing -	2	813	3	938
German - - - -	„ -	17	8,542	13	6,509
„ - - - -	Steam -	1	340	—	—
Norwegian - - -	Sailing -	7	3,302	7	3,254
Swedish - - - -	„ -	2	1,280	2	1,280
Danish - - - -	„ -	2	518	2	518
Tongan - - - -	„ -	1	85	—	—
Hawaiian - - -	Steam -	9	15,417	9	15,417
Chilian - - - -	Sailing -	1	173	1	173
Totals - -	- - -	72	70,187	68	68,194

On the 653 vessels that entered in 1887, 597, or 91·42 per cent., arrived with cargoes, and 56, or 8·58 per cent., were in ballast. The proportion of vessels with cargoes and of their tonnage was less than in 1886. The proportion of those outwards which had cargoes was greater in 1887 than in 1886. The particulars for the two years are here given:—

Year.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Inwards.				
1886, vessels - - -	673	92·83	52	7·17
1887 „ - - -	597	91·42	56	8·58
1886, tons - - -	485,478	96·60	17,094	3·40
1887 „ - - -	467,387	95·43	22,367	4·57
Outwards.				
1886, vessels - - -	629	88·96	78	11·03
1887 „ - - -	605	89·63	70	10·37
1886, tons - - -	442,401	90·59	45,930	9·41
1887 „ - - -	455,787	92·34	37,796	7·66

Nearly 80 per cent. of all the vessels inwards, embracing nearly 91 per cent. of the tonnage, arrived at the five principal ports of Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton, Napier, and the Bluff.

The following were the numbers and proportions at each of those ports in 1887 :—

Port.	Vessels Inwards in 1887.			
	Number.	Per-centage.	Tonnage.	Per-centage.
Auckland - - -	220	33·69	157,379	32·14
Wellington - -	97	14·86	117,301	23·95
Lyttelton - - -	68	10·41	47,164	9·63
Dunedin - - -	65	9·95	59,230	12·09
Bluff - - -	71	10·87	63,334	12·93
Eighteen other ports -	132	20·22	45,346	9·26
Totals -	653	100·00	489,754	100·00

The following table shows the number and tonnage of the vessels inwards and outwards for each of the Australasian Colonies during the year :—

	Inwards.		Outwards.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Queensland - -	838	468,183	879	456,052	1,717	924,235
New South Wales - -	2,815	2,142,457	2,906	2,180,301	5,721	4,322,758
Victoria - - -	2,435	1,920,180	2,418	1,938,063	4,853	3,858,243
South Australia - -	907	841,422	905	836,461	1,812	1,677,883
Western Australia -	255	249,813	185	214,824	440	464,637
Tasmania - - -	677	360,404	714	374,895	1,391	735,299
New Zealand - -	653	489,754	675	493,583	1,328	983,337
Totals - -	8,580	6,472,213	8,682	6,494,179	17,262	12,966,392

The tonnage of the New Zealand shipping, inwards and outwards, was more than one-thirteenth of that of all the Australasian Colonies, the population of the Colony having been one-sixth of the whole population. The tonnage of the New South Wales shipping was more than four and one-third times, and that of the Victorian nearly four times, as great as that of New Zealand, while the tonnage for South Australia was more than one and two-thirds

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The following table shows the tonnage of vessels inwards from, and outwards to, different countries with cargoes and in ballast in 1886 and 1887 :—

Countries whence arrived or to which cleared.	1886.				1887.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom - -	163,914	487	148,521	—	157,085	—	161,905	—
Australia - - -	203,101	14,053	207,431	15,615	195,978	17,560	207,705	21,917
Tasmania - - -	452,259	314	36,866	447	36,650	2,492	29,726	45
Fiji - - - -	9,196	300	8,491	—	9,678	230	7,004	589
Other Pacific Islands -	33,165	1,940	32,649	2,317	34,757	2,085	34,656	3,876
Guam - - -	—	—	48	2,581	—	—	1,091	1,042
United States— East Coast - -	10,612	—	4,333	—	11,712	—	6,535	—
West Coast - -	—	—	—	8,656	—	—	—	—
China and Hong Kong -	2,028	—	—	—	2,558	—	2,218	—
India - - - -	4,151	—	1,797	7,744	4,750	—	2,736	—
Singapore - - -	237	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Java - - - -	1,841	—	—	—	4,265	—	—	—
Mauritius - - -	6,450	—	—	—	4,601	—	—	—
Natal - -	—	—	—	—	324	—	—	—
Brazil - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	787	—
Chili - - - -	—	—	—	8,570	—	—	—	8,553
Peru - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,194
British Columbia - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	580
Germany - - -	2,650	—	—	—	5,029	—	—	—
Whale fisheries - -	2,874	—	2,265	—	—	—	1,424	—

The coastal traffic of New Zealand increased considerably in 1887. In that year the entries of shipping coastwise at all the ports of the Colony represented an aggregate of 4,584 sailing-vessels, of an aggregate of 268,514 tonnage, and of 12,947 steam-vessels, of 3,367,667 aggregate tonnage, against entries in 1886 of 3,783 sailing-vessels, of 281,311 tonnage, and 12,176 steamers, of 3,208,946 tonnage. In each year the same vessels are repeatedly enumerated on their frequent visits at the several ports. The difference, however, in the number of entries indicates the increase in the traffic.

There was a decrease during 1887 of 14 in the number, and 169 in the tonnage, of vessels on the New Zealand register.

The number and tonnage at the beginning and end of 1886 and 1887 of vessels on the register are given underneath :—

Upon the Register	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Totals.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
On the 31st December 1886 - - -	403	55,659	168	38,537	571	94,196
On the 31st December 1887 - - -	389	54,512	168	39,515	557	94,027

There was, thus, during the year a decrease of 14 in the number of sailing-vessels, but only of 1,147 in their tonnage. The number of steamers remained the same, but there was an increase of 978 in the tonnage. Of the vessels on the colonial register, 233 sailing-vessels, of an aggregate of 12,615 tons, and 107 steamers, of 13,913 tonnage (exclusive of river steamers), were employed in home (coastal) trade only; 29 sailing-vessels, of 6,829 tonnage, and 15 steamers, of 14,877 tonnage, were employed partly in the home and partly in the foreign trade; and 97 vessels, of 32,524 tonnage, with 5 steamers, of 9,888 tonnage, were employed in the foreign trade only.

Imports.

The total declared value of the imports in 1887 was 6,245,515*l.*, being a reduction of 513,498*l.* on the similar value in 1886; but, as the specie imported amounted to 439,790*l.* in 1886 and 181,234*l.* in 1887, the imports exclusive of specie were greater in 1886 by only 254,942*l.* There has been a continuous decrease in the value of the imports since 1882; in that year the value was 8,609,270*l.*, greater than that in 1887 by 2,363,755*l.*

The following table shows the value of certain principal articles imported in each of the three years 1885 to 1887:—

Groups of principal Articles imported.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	£	£	£
Apparel and slops - - -	216,689	208,852	169,521
Boots and shoes - - -	185,642	157,445	159,390
Cotton piece-goods - - -	237,130	214,324	200,995
Drapery - - - -	1,089,640	872,689	742,281
Haberdashery - - - -	81,660	80,241	80,815
Hosiery - - - -	42,614	42,473	39,778
Hats and caps - - -	39,172	35,848	28,475
Linen manufactures - - -	25,291	21,996	17,407
Millinery - - - -	35,233	26,135	29,075
Silks - - - - -	11,941	10,676	8,443
Woollens - - - -	119,231	104,993	97,337
Totals - - -	2,084,234	1,775,672	1,573,517

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Groups of principal Articles imported.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	£	£	£
Agricultural implements - -	13,833	10,954	14,102
Cutlery - - - - -	16,206	14,419	13,572
Hardware and ironmongery - -	186,888	178,974	165,134
Iron rails and railway-bolts, &c. -	39,110	7,038	31,325
Iron, other--pig, wrought wire, &c. -	384,523	333,186	324,680
Machinery - - - -	146,553	149,265	197,012
Nails - - - - -	35,423	31,815	20,682
Railway plant - - - -	115,218	59,488	38,141
Sewing machines - - -	29,024	18,563	18,651
Steel and steel rails - - -	26,133	20,695	18,588
Tools, artificers' - - -	36,131	37,531	31,173
Totals - - -	1,029,042	861,928	873,060
Sugar - - - - -	337,671	354,251	437,694
Tea - - - - -	217,136	198,075	233,244
Totals - - -	554,807	552,326	670,938
Beer - - - - -	102,229	74,942	61,108
Spirits - - - - -	222,556	177,184	191,586
Tobacco - - - -	125,066	138,047	82,406
Wine - - - - -	66,745	57,873	53,124
Totals - - -	516,596	448,046	388,224
Paper - - - -	124,599	121,420	122,602
Printed books - - - -	119,026	110,491	112,199
Stationery - - - -	89,356	68,847	67,887
Totals - - -	332,981	300,758	302,688
Bags and sacks - - - -	103,298	100,765	77,982
Coals - - - - -	147,083	123,345	108,288
Fancy goods - - - -	108,354	82,576	68,266
Fruits (including fresh, preserved, bottled, dried) - - -	134,413	113,415	123,506
Oils - - - - -	142,342	129,314	92,173
Other imports - - -	2,124,951	1,831,078	1,785,639
Total imports (excluding specie) - -	7,278,101	6,319,223	6,064,281
Specie - - - - -	201,820	439,790	181,234
Total imports - -	7,479,921	6,759,013	6,245,515

In the first, or clothing group, the value of imports has decreased by 510,717*l.* since 1885. The Customs entries are insufficient to show whether this decrease is due to a fall in the prices of the goods, or to a diminution in the quantities imported. It is, however, well known that prices generally of articles in this group have fallen.

In the next, or iron and machinery group, there is also a considerable decrease on the value of the imports since 1885, although the value was higher in 1887 than in 1886. As in several items in this group the quantities are only given by the term "package,"

it is again difficult to ascertain the cause of the decrease. Judging, however, from the total weights of all the goods entered by weight, it would appear that the decrease is but slightly attributable to lower prices. Between the end of 1885 and 1887 the imports of these last goods in this group decreased in quantity by 17 per cent., while the decrease in the gross values was only about 18 per cent. In 1887 the imports of these goods were greater in quantity by 2 per cent. than in 1886; but their total value was greater by only 1 per cent.

Tea and sugar imports, and consumption.

Tea and sugar imports were considerably greater in quantity and in value in 1887 than in 1885, but in 1886 the value and quantity of tea were less than in 1885. The per-centage per head of population (excluding Maoris) of these imports in each of the three years is shown in the following statement:—

	1885.		1886.		1887.	
	Total.	Per Head.	Total.	Per Head.	Total.	Per Head.
Tea.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Imported - - - -	4,442,867	7·80	4,349,260	7·47	4,718,761	7·91
Entered for consumption -	4,081,686	7·16	4,045,503	6·95	4,815,286	8·07
Sugar.						
Imported - - - -	38,119,760	66·91	40,748,176	70·00	54,727,792	91·77
Entered for consumption -	45,297,840	79·51	45,257,968	77·75	51,365,776	86·13

In these calculations no allowance has been made for the Maoris who consume considerable quantities of sugar.

Estimating the amount per head on the population (including Maoris), the result would be—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	Mean.
Sugar entered for consumption, per head -	Lbs. 74·05	Lbs. 72·52	Lbs. 80·47	Lbs. 75·68

It may be, however, more correct to assume that the Maoris do not, on an average, consume more than half the quantity consumed by an equal number of Europeans. The amounts per head on that basis would be the following:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	Mean.
Sugar entered for consumption, per head -	Lbs. 76·68	Lbs. 75·04	Lbs. 83·20	Lbs. 78·31

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The next group, fermented drinks and tobacco, exhibits a continued large reduction in the value of these imports.

Consumption per head of beer, spirits, and wine.

The following table gives the consumption per head of the population, showing separately the proportion (including and excluding the Maoris) of beer, spirits, and wines for the last seven years. The amount of beer consumed not only includes the imports of beer, but also the quantity manufactured in the Colony:—

	Consumption per Head of Mean Population of					
	Beer.		Spirits.		Wine.	
	Excluding Maoris.	Including Maoris.	Excluding Maoris.	Including Maoris.	Excluding Maoris.	Including Maoris.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1881 - - -	10·215	9·377	1·159	1·064	0·335	0·308
1882 - - -	10·523	9·684	1·153	1·061	0·351	0·323
1883 - - -	9·435	8·709	1·088	1·005	0·315	0·291
1884 - - -	8·769	8·121	0·999	0·923	0·272	0·253
1885 - - -	8·414	7·840	0·899	0·825	0·261	0·243
1886 - - -	7·861	7·333	0·820	0·765	0·212	0·198
1887 - - -	7·651	7·148	0·770	0·719	0·198	0·185

It is evident, from the reductions in the values of the imports, and also from the fact that there is an absolute and material decrease in the total quantities consumed, that the smaller average consumption per head of the population is not merely attributable to the increasing proportion of the younger members of the community.

Thus, in 1881 5,040,818 gallons of beer were brought into consumption, against 4,563,086 in 1887. The quantity of spirits entered for home consumption in 1881 was 571,829 gallons, and of wine 165,460 gallons, against 459,007 gallons of spirits and 117,959 gallons of wine in 1887.

It takes time to materially alter the habits and customs of a people; but those who are endeavouring to lessen the evil practice of excessive drinking, with the suffering and crime resulting therefrom, may well find encouragement from a consideration of the figures given.

Import and consumption of tobacco.

The large reduction in the value of tobacco imported in 1887 resulted from a considerable diminution in the quantity imported, viz., 1,737,046 lbs. in 1886, and only 1,027,436 lbs. in 1887. The actual consumption can, however, only be ascertained by the quantity entered for duty ex warehouse. This amounted in 1885 to 2·13 lbs. per head of the mean population, inclusive of Maoris (for probably the Maoris consume, on an average, as much, if not more, tobacco per head than the Europeans), to 1·96 lb. per head in 1886, and to 1·93 lb. in 1887.

There was an increase in 1887 in the value of imports from Europe (except the United Kingdom), China, Java, Fiji, and some of the Pacific Islands, also from Africa and the Philippine Islands, but a decrease as compared with 1886 in values from other places.

The imports direct from Germany increased from 44,549*l.* in 1886 to 68,532*l.* in 1887. In 1883 the imports from Germany were only of the value of 5,793*l.* Various British Consuls have recently drawn attention to the efforts being made by the agents of German firms to extend their own trade, at the expense of the British merchant, in the various markets of the world. The rapidly-increasing trade with Germany bears witness to their efforts in this Colony. The imports direct from France increased in value from 14,846*l.* in 1886 to 21,994*l.* in 1887; but this trade is irregular. In 1885 the value of imports was 7,824*l.*, and in 1883 18,663*l.*

The increased value of imports from South Africa was due to the importation of 48 ostriches from Natal, valued at 10,000*l.* The following shows the values of imports from different countries in 1886 and 1887, given in the order of the increase or decrease from each :—

	1886.	1887.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Fiji and the Pacific Islands	85,882	141,704	55,822
Java	36,460	85,400	18,940
Europe (excepting United Kingdom)	64,591	99,476	34,885
China and Hong Kong	170,044	186,870	16,826
Africa, Cape Colony, and Natal	172	10,088	9,916
Egypt	581	736	155
Philippine Islands	1,852	3,038	1,186
Asia Minor	—	270	270
			Decrease.
United Kingdom	4,481,101	4,173,497	307,604
Australia and Tasmania	1,317,376	1,030,094	287,282
United States	337,322	298,736	38,586
Mauritius	118,758	100,464	18,294
India	121,580	107,453	14,127
Singapore	4,462	1,404	3,058
Japan	7,333	4,927	2,406
Canada	2,311	1,358	953
Brazil	500	Nil.	500
Whale fisheries	8,688	„	8,688

There was an increase in the value of imports into the Canterbury and Westland Provincial Districts, but a decrease in the values imported into other districts.

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The increase or decrease in each provincial district during the year 1887, as compared with the imports in 1886, was as follows :—

	Increase.	Decrease.	Rate per cent.
	£	£	
Auckland - - - -	—	286,884	16·33
Taranaki - - - -	—	4,285	21·31
Hawke's Bay - - - -	—	8,576	4·63
Wellington - - - -	—	175,246	13·28
Marlborough - - - -	—	5,912	28·96
Nelson - - - - -	—	11,086	6·46
Westland - - - -	32,283	—	35·15
Canterbury - - - -	99,764	—	7·57
Otago - - - -	—	153,556	8·19

Exports.

The total declared value of the exports in 1887 was 6,866,169*l.*, being greater by 193,378*l.* than the value in 1886.

Of the exports in 1887, the produce of other countries re-exported, exclusive of specie, amounted in value to 129,691*l.*, and the produce of the Colony amounted to 6,551,081*l.* The following shows the value of the re-exports, exclusive of specie, from the Colony in each of the past 10 years :—

	£
1878 - - - - -	125,642
1879 - - - - -	103,589
1880 - - - - -	129,988
1881 - - - - -	132,868
1882 - - - - -	142,115
1883 - - - - -	156,784
1884 - - - - -	147,741
1885 - - - - -	146,951
1886 - - - - -	198,238
1887 - - - - -	129,691

This re-export trade assumes insignificant features when compared with that of New South Wales. In 1886 the value of the seaward re-export trade of that Colony amounted to 2,536,633*l.*, being nearly 18 times as great as that of New Zealand in the same year, and about 20 times as great as that of this Colony in 1887, while the population of New South Wales is considerably less than double that of New Zealand.

The value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony exported in 1887 was greater than in 1886 by 164,399*l.*

The following table gives the principal articles of export for 1886 and 1887, with the export value of each, and the increase or decrease, during the past year:—

Principal Articles exported.	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Wool - - - -	3,072,971	3,321,074	248,103	—
Tallow - - -	119,619	147,233	27,614	—
Hides - - - -	31,564	30,198	—	1,366
Sheep skins - - -	40,672	56,152	15,480	—
Leather - - -	36,167	31,596	—	4,571
Rabbit skins - - -	65,694	111,172	45,478	—
Gold - - - -	939,648	747,878	—	191,770
Coal - - - -	52,133	44,083	—	8,050
Flour - - - -	86,663	15,901	—	70,762
Bran and sharps - -	44,561	29,262	—	15,299
Wheat - - -	213,246	108,349	—	104,897
Barley - - -	20,561	23,643	3,082	—
Malt - - - -	14,778	7,977	—	6,801
Oats - - - -	200,830	279,556	78,726	—
Oatmeal - - -	13,744	13,880	136	—
Biscuits - - -	3,830	2,457	—	1,373
Potatoes - - -	23,735	31,427	7,692	—
Hops - - - -	6,753	8,210	1,457	—
Grass seed - - -	44,960	42,711	—	2,249
Butter - - -	105,537	54,921	—	50,616
Cheese - - -	45,657	54,562	8,905	—
Bacon and hams - -	34,308	33,111	—	1,197
Salt beef and pork - -	19,045	18,197	—	848
Preserved meats - -	47,426	79,246	31,820	—
Frozen meat - - -	427,193	455,870	28,677	—
Soap - - - -	3,160	3,189	29	—
Fungus - - -	10,470	16,667	6,197	—
Kauri gum - - -	257,653	362,434	104,781	—
Phormium - - -	15,922	25,094	9,172	—
Timber, sawn and hewn -	137,905	127,108	—	10,797
Timber, logs - - -	5,603	1,621	—	3,982

Wool export.

The quantity of wool exported in 1887 was 88,824,382 lbs., being less than the quantity exported in 1886 by 2,029,362 lbs.; but, owing to the increase in the value of this product, the quantity exported in 1887 was valued at 248,103*l.* more than the larger quantity in 1886.

The annual production of wool can be best estimated by taking the exports for the 12 months prior to the 30th September in any year—that is, immediately preceding the commencement of shearing, and adding thereto the quantity used for manufactures in the Colony.

The following shows the produce for the last eight years ending respectively on the 30th September on that basis. The period of

NEW ZEALAND. eight years has been selected because no information has been obtained of the quantity used in local industries prior to 1880 :—

Year ending 30th September.	Quantity exported.	Quantity reserved for Local Use.	Total Annual Product.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1880 - - -	62,586,189	917,223	63,503,412
1881 - - -	60,477,151	*1,500,000	61,977,151
1882 - - -	64,402,712	2,200,000	66,602,712
1883 - - -	72,842,949	1,900,000	74,742,949
1884 - - -	77,022,894	1,580,000	78,602,894
1885 - - -	78,174,034	1,922,932	80,096,966
1886 - - -	89,485,757	1,879,999	91,365,756
1887 - - -	88,824,382	2,001,155	90,825,537

Mr. Hayter, in his "Victorian Year Book" for 1886-87, gave a statement of the estimated annual production of wool in the world, taken from figures given in the Third Annual Report of the Statistical Institute of Holland. The total production was given at 1,930,319,260 lbs. On the basis of these figures the New Zealand products amounted to nearly one-twentieth part of the wool crop of the world.

Gold export. There was a decrease in 1887 to the extent of 47,640 ozs. in the quantity of gold exported, the quantities having been 235,578 ozs. in 1886, and 187,938 ozs. in 1887. The value of this export decreased from 939,648*l.* to 747,878*l.* The amount entered for duty for exportation during the year—which more nearly represents the production during the year—was 203,869 ozs., of the value of 811,100*l.*

The following shows the value of the produce from the goldfields in each district which was entered for duty in 1886 and 1887 :—

	1886.	1887.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Auckland - - -	128,140	121,564	6,576
Wellington - - -	169	—	169
Marlborough - - -	1,451	4,336	Incr. 2,885
Nelson - - -	9,979	10,252	Incr. 273
West Coast - - -	446,287	395,430	50,857
Otago - - - -	317,543	279,518	38,025
Totals - - -	903,569	811,100	92,469

* Estimated.

The production of the goldfields has steadily decreased during the past 10 years. In 1887 the amount on which duty was paid was less by one-third, both in quantity and value, than in 1878. The following are the quantities for each year:—

Year.	——	——	Year.	——	——
	Ozs.	£		Ozs.	£
1878 -	310,486	1,240,079	1883 -	248,374	993,352
1879 -	287,464	1,148,108	1884 -	229,946	921,797
1880 -	305,248	1,227,252	1885 -	237,371	948,615
1881 -	270,561	1,080,790	1886 -	227,079	903,569
1882 -	251,204	1,002,720	1887 -	203,869	811,100

The total value of gold entered for duty from the first discovery thereof to the 31st December 1887 was 44,042,576*l.*

The following shows the total quantity of gold produced in each Colony from the years 1851 to 1886 inclusive:—

	Ozs.	£
Victoria - - - -	54,393,182	217,572,726
New Zealand - - -	11,016,729	43,231,476
New South Wales - - -	9,737,801	36,083,538
Queensland - - - -	5,181,219	18,134,266
Tasmania - - - -	450,673	1,725,833
South Australia - - -	199,276	709,104
Totals - -	80,978,883	317,456,943

New Zealand thus takes the second place among the Australian Colonies for gold production. No large quantities of gold were obtained in this Colony prior to 1861, but the returns for the other Colonies include the operations of several years, when but little gold mining was taking place in New Zealand. The gold production of the world in 1885 was estimated at 4,912,844 ozs.

NEW ZEALAND. The following was the production for each country in that year:—*

	Ozs.
Australasia - - - -	1,442,437
United States- - - -	1,537,930
Russia - - - -	1,225,414
Mexico - - - -	41,913
Germany - - - -	19,639
Austria-Hungary - - -	53,921
Sweden - - - -	611
Italy - - - - -	3,504
Turkey - - - -	322
Argentine Republic - - -	3,794
Colombia - - - -	186,488
Bolivia - - - -	3,504
Chili - - - - -	16,071
Brazil - - - -	28,864
Japan - - - -	546
Africa - - - -	80,355
Venezuela - - - -	226,055
Dominion of Canada - - -	34,842
Peru - - - - -	7,264
Total - - - -	4,912,844

The value may probably be estimated at between 18 and 19½ millions sterling, but an exact valuation would depend on the purity of the gold produced in each country. Even in New Zealand there is a very great difference in the value of the gold produced in the Middle Island and that produced in the Auckland district.

Export of wheat and oats. The export of wheat fell from 1,251,622 bushels in 1886 to 630,214 bushels in 1887. Although the wheat crop in February 1887 was estimated to be larger by more than 2,000,000 bushels than that in February 1886, yet it is estimated that, after allowing for the requisite quantity for local consumption, and for seed for the increased area of land brought under wheat in 1888, the export of 630,214 bushels would only have left a surplus of about 230,000 bushels on the year's crop.

* Taken from Mr. Hayter's Year Book for 1886–87, and chiefly compiled by him from the Report of Mr. Kimball, Director of the United States Mint.

The export of oats in 1887 amounted to 3,189,898 bushels, against 1,992,659 bushels in 1886, being an increase of 1,197,239 bushels. The quantity in 1887 was the largest that has been hitherto exported in any one year.

Frozen meat export.

Attention has been drawn in previous years to the large annual increase in the export of frozen meat. A further increase in 1887 has to be recorded. The amount of increase on the quantity exported in 1886 was 56,052 cwts., equal to 104,630 sheep at 60 lbs. each. The present growth in the trade may well be expected to cause a further increase in the future, by affording encouragement to settlers to clear and lay down bush land into grass for the purpose of keeping sheep, the export trade furnishing them with a certain market for their stock. Considering the millions of acres that are still capable of being converted into pasture land, it would seem that these exports may be gradually increased to an extent that will have an important bearing on the progress of the Colony.

The following were the quantities and declared values of frozen meats exported during the past six years :—

Year.	——	——	Year.	——	——
	Cwts.	£		Cwts.	£
1882 -	15,244	19,339	1885 -	296,473	373,857
1883 -	87,975	118,328	1886 -	346,055	427,193
1884 -	254,069	345,090	1887 -	402,107	455,870

Butter and cheese exported.

The quantity of butter exported in 1887 was 17,018 cwts., being a decrease of 6,157 cwts. on the quantity exported in 1886. The decrease is owing to the smaller export to New South Wales. In 1886 18,786¾ cwts. were exported thither; in 1887 only 6,174 cwts. The imposition in 1886 of an import duty in New South Wales of 1*d.* per pound on butter may have tended to this result. On the other hand, the export of butter to the United Kingdom increased from 635¼ cwts. in 1886 to 6,936¾ cwts. in 1887.

The exports of cheese increased from 16,429 cwts. in 1886 to 23,913 cwts. in 1887. While the exports to the other Australasian Colonies fell from 16,098 cwts. to 13,452¾ cwts., of which the chief decrease was in the exports to New South Wales—viz., from 8,217 cwts. in 1886 to 3,385 cwts. in 1887—the export of cheese to the United Kingdom increased from 17 cwts. in 1886 to 9,900¾ cwts. in 1887.

The increase in the exports of butter and cheese to the United Kingdom is very satisfactory. It is thus shown that, with care in the manufacture, the dairy produce of New Zealand can be placed advantageously on the English market, and as this Colony is specially adapted for the pursuit of dairy farming, the development of this branch of trade may be confidently expected to assume in the future features of considerable importance.

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Value of exports from different ports.

The following table gives the value of the exports from each of the ports for the years 1886 and 1887, with the increase or decrease in the past year:—

	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Lyttelton - -	1,760,793	1,627,056	—	133,737
Dunedin - -	1,276,966	1,311,629	34,663	—
Wellington - -	1,372,781	1,252,537	—	120,244
Auckland - -	830,765	986,712	155,947	—
Napier - - -	581,881	650,678	68,797	—
Invercargill and Bluff -	222,212	356,978	134,766	—
Oamaru - -	225,597	231,394	5,797	—
Timaru - -	185,408	189,084	3,676	—
Kaipara - -	58,080	56,615	—	1,465
Poverty Bay - -	70,684	55,771	—	14,913
Picton - - -	3,858	52,613	48,755	—
Whangaroa - -	15,166	14,322	—	844
Thames - -	9,763	13,319	3,556	—
Wanganui - -	940	12,283	11,343	—
Westport - -	—	10,556	10,556	—
Wairau - -	—	10,604	10,604	—
Mongonui - -	9,174	9,623	449	—
Greymouth - -	7,518	5,777	—	1,741
Russell - -	2,946	5,585	2,639	—
Nelson - -	6,898	4,903	—	1,995
New Plymouth -	9,560	2,536	—	7,024
Hokitika - -	3,055	2,205	—	850
Riverton - -	13,124	1,660	—	11,464
Hokianga - -	5,322	1,650	—	3,672
Patea - -	—	79	79	—

Value of total trade.

The total value of the external trade in 1887 was 13,111,684*l.*, equivalent to 21*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population, exclusive of Maoris.

In estimating the trade per head of the population it has been the practice to exclude all consideration of the Maori population for the following reasons:—

In the earlier years, although the numbers were not accurately known, yet the proportion of Maoris to the rest of the population was much greater than at the present time. In 1871 they constituted 15 per cent. of the whole population of the Colony; in 1887 less than $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. When their number was greatest their consumption of imports was proportionately least, and at no time have they added very materially to the exports. To have included them in the early years would have very unduly decreased the amount of trade per head of the rest of the population, and for purposes of comparison with other colonies and countries, their exclusion rendered the result more reliable, although neither course was absolutely correct. Of late years, with smaller numbers, they have had a proportionately larger influence on the extent of trade, but yet so much *per capita* below that of the European portion of the population that their inclusion would still cause the rate per head of the aggregate population to be too low if applied to the Europeans only.

The effect of including the Maori population in calculating the proportion of trade to each person would have been to reduce the trade per head of the other part of the population by 4*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* in 1871, and by only 1*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* in 1887.

The following table shows the quantity of imports, exports, and total trade per head of the population, excluding Maoris, for the years 1870–1887 :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1870 - - -	19 2 1	19 17 2	38 19 3
1871 - - -	15 12 11	20 5 4	35 18 3
1872 - - -	18 16 5	18 19 10	37 16 3
1873 - - -	22 9 4	19 9 11	41 19 3
1874 - - -	25 6 6	16 7 6	41 14 0
1875 - - -	22 7 6	16 4 9	38 12 3
1876 - - -	17 16 5	14 12 10	32 9 3
1877 - - -	17 1 6	15 9 11	32 11 5
1878 - - -	20 13 6	14 4 1	34 17 7
1879 - - -	18 13 9	12 16 4	31 10 1
1880 - - -	12 19 10	13 7 10	26 7 8
1881 - - -	15 2 3	12 5 8	27 7 11
1882 - - -	16 18 1	13 1 5	29 19 6
1883 - - -	15 1 3	13 8 2	28 9 5
1884 - - -	13 17 4	12 16 8	26 14 0
1885 - - -	13 4 9	12 1 5	25 6 2
1886 - - -	11 12 2	11 9 3	23 1 5
1887 - - -	10 9 5	11 10 3	21 19 8

It will be observed that the imports were in value less per head in 1887 than in any previous year, and that the value of the exports per head in 1886 and 1887 were also less than in any of the preceding years, although those in 1887 were somewhat greater than in 1886. A large proportion of the diminution in value of the total trade is due to the fall in prices not only of imported articles, but of the prices of some of the chief articles of export, *e.g.*, wool and grain. The effect of these reductions in prices is shown thus: If the prices of wool and grain had been the same as in 1877 the values of the total exports would have been greater in 1887 by close on 1,600,000*l.*, equivalent to an increase of 2*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population; not merely so, but the higher prices would very greatly have stimulated the growth of wheat, and caused a much larger export. As this amount would have returned to the Colony in the form of imports, the total trade would have been greater by twice 2*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, or 5*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* per head. This is without taking into consideration the greatly reduced prices in the values of imports, and the reduction in the total trade value in consequence.

The trade with the United Kingdom in 1887 amounted to 9,020,910*l.*, a decrease on that in 1886 to the extent of 47,625*l.*

This trade in 1887 amounted to 68·8 per cent. of the total trade.

The trade with New South Wales amounted to 1,152,833*l.*, a decrease on that in 1886 of 246,129*l.*; that with Victoria to 1,110,356*l.*, a decrease of 161,338*l.*; that with Queensland to

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105,890*l.*, a decrease of 22,399*l.*; that with South Australia to 42,619*l.*, a decrease of 25,651*l.*; that with Western Australia to 3,756*l.*, a decrease of 15,034*l.*; and that with Tasmania to 72,422*l.*, a decrease of 64,783*l.*

The total trade with Australia and Tasmania thus amounted to 2,487,876*l.*, being a decrease on that in 1886 to the extent of 535,334*l.*

The value of the total trade with Fiji and the Pacific Islands was 235,232*l.*, an increase on that in 1886 of 44,601*l.* The increase is, however, chiefly in the trade with Fiji, which amounted to 129,538*l.* in 1887, against 77,630*l.* in 1886.

The direct total trade with the United States increased from 584,722*l.* in 1886 to 708,216*l.* in 1887. This, however, was less than the value of the total trade in 1885—namely, 806,410*l.* The larger amount of trade in 1887 is attributable to increased exports in that year. The principal item of export was kauri-gum, the value of which was 243,744*l.* in 1887, against 167,050*l.* in 1886. The export of wool to the United States only amounted to 3,100*l.* in 1887, but no wool was exported thither in 1886.

The following table shows the value of the total trade with the United States in each of the past seven years, the value of the exports and imports to and from the Atlantic and Pacific ports being separately given:—

Year.	Imports from		Exports to		Total Trade.
	Atlantic Ports.	Pacific Ports.	Atlantic Ports.	Pacific Ports.	
	£	£	£	£	£
1881 - - -	302,138	41,507	116,629	239,158	699,432
1882 - - -	398,153	65,340	126,583	308,101	898,177
1883 - - -	357,871	61,379	158,426	272,563	850,239
1884 - - -	300,185	48,372	183,939	30,430	562,926
1885 - - -	366,873	34,659	130,053	274,825	806,410
1886 - - -	304,571	32,751	166,926	80,474	584,722
1887 - - -	263,377	35,359	241,388	168,092	708,216

The total trade with India was nearly the same in 1886 and 1887, but the imports were less in 1887, and the exports were greater. The imports consisted chiefly of bagging, woolpacks, cordage, rice, castor oil, and tea; the exports chiefly of horses—the value of these exported having amounted to 4,870*l.* in 1886, and 8,150*l.* in 1887. The following shows the total trade in each year:—

	Imports from India.	Exports to India.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1886 - - -	121,580	6,019	127,599
1887 - - -	107,453	9,196	116,649

The following table exhibits the value of the trade of the Australasian Colonies for the year 1887:—

Colony.	Imports.	Per Head of Population.	Exports.	Per Head of Population.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Queensland -	5,821,611	16 8 2	6,453,945	18 3 10	12,275,556	34 12 0
Victoria - -	19,022,151	18 13 1	11,351,145	11 2 8	30,373,296	29 15 9
New South Wales -	18,806,236	18 7 10	18,496,917	18 1 10	37,303,153	36 9 8
South Australia -	5,096,293	16 5 3	5,330,780	17 0 3	10,427,073	33 5 6
Western Australia	832,213	19 19 2	604,656	14 10 0	1,436,869	34 9 2
Tasmania - -	1,596,817	11 8 5	1,449,371	10 7 3	3,046,188	21 15 8
New Zealand -	6,245,515	*10 9 5	6,866,169	*11 10 3	13,111,684	*21 19 8
Totals and average rates -	57,420,836	*16 9 3	50,552,983	*14 9 10	107,973,819	*30 19 1

The values of the exports of these Colonies are largely augmented by re-exports of the produce of other Colonies and countries. The following represents the value of the exports in 1887 from each Colony of articles being the produce and manufacture of such Colony:—

	Value.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.
Queensland - - -	6,338,205	17 17 4
Victoria - - - -	8,502,979	8 6 9
New South Wales - - -	15,472,361	15 2 8
South Australia - -	3,348,561	10 13 9
Western Australia - - -	601,185	14 8 4
Tasmania - - - -	1,425,457	10 3 10
New Zealand - - -	6,551,081	10 19 8
Total - -	42,450,718	

The total value of the colonial products exported is, in reality, greater than the amount above given, as the value is not given therein of the wool being the produce of New South Wales brought into and shipped from the Colonies of Victoria and South Australia,

* The population on which the rate per head is calculated does not include the Maoris.

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the values of such wool being included with those of the produce of other Colonies and countries in the returns which are exempted from this last table.

The trade between New Zealand and the United Kingdom amounted in 1887 to between one-fifth and one-sixth (18·77 per cent.) of the total trade between that country and all the Australasian Colonies. This proportion is about the same as the proportion the New Zealand population bears to that of all these Colonies.

The following table shows the amount of the Australasian trade with the United Kingdom in 1887 :—

	Imports from the United Kingdom.	Exports to the United Kingdom.	Total Trade with United Kingdom.
	£	£	£
Queensland - - -	2,296,803	2,001,827	4,298,630
New South Wales - -	7,998,568	6,966,056	14,964,624
Victoria - - - -	8,290,046	5,476,229	13,766,275
South Australia* - -	1,973,647	2,553,583	4,527,230
Western Australia - -	351,460	382,073	733,533
Tasmania - - -	435,557	350,274	785,831
New Zealand - - -	4,173,497	4,847,413	9,020,910
Total - -	25,519,578	22,577,455	48,097,033

There was a decrease of 3,914,730*l.* in the value of imports into the Australasian Colonies in 1887 on the value in 1886; but the value of the exports to the United Kingdom increased in 1887 by 801,742*l.* The value of the total trade with the United Kingdom was thus less in 1887 by 3,112,988*l.* The trade with South Australia, for want of better information, has been assumed to be the same as in 1886 for the purpose of this comparative table.

Post offices.

There were 1,117 post offices in the Colony at the end of 1887, being an increase of 28 on the number in 1886. 18,711,329 letters were posted during the year, and 20,666,445 delivered.

Letters.

The letters posted showed an increase of 523,185 on the number in 1886, and the letters delivered an increase of 769,997. The number of post-cards posted in 1887 was 849,637, an increase of 108,026 on the number in the previous year.

Newspapers.

7,250,148 newspapers were posted and 8,131,175 delivered during the year, an increase of 405,310 in the number posted and of 651,966 in the number delivered in 1886.

Registered letters.

The total number of letters registered in the Colony was 118,889, against 110,152 in 1886.

* Full returns not having been yet received from South Australia for 1887, the figures for 1886 have been given.

Dead letters.

The number of unclaimed letters in 1887 was 96,389, a decrease of 6,694 on the number in 1886. Of these letters, 5,974 were destroyed, 96 were re-issued, and the rest were returned.

The total value of coin, order-cheques, and other documents representing money, and of stamps, found in letters opened in the Dead Letter Office in 1887, was 2,585*l.* 10*s.* 1½*d.*, against corresponding values of 3,264*l.* 16*s.* 8½*d.* in 1886, and 5,243*l.* 11*s.* 8½*d.* in 1885. In addition, several watches and articles of jewellery were found enclosed in letters that were opened. The articles found were returned to the senders where practicable.

Money orders.

During 1887, 159,579 money orders, for the aggregate amount of 555,744*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*, were issued by the various post offices in the Colony, being an increase of 3,899 on the number issued in 1886, and of 7,989*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* in the amount. Of the orders issued in 1887, the number for payment in the Colony was 119,091, representing 426,194*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*; 26,057 orders, representing 84,264*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* were for payment in the United Kingdom and foreign offices, and 14,431 orders were issued for payment in the Australian Colonies, &c. of 45,285*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*; 15,297 money orders, for an aggregate amount of 56,677*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, made payable in the Colony were issued outside the Colony.

Cost of ocean mail services.

The cost of the various mail services between England and New Zealand was in each of the years 1886 and 1887 as follows :—

San Francisco Service.

	1886.		1887.	
Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Subsidies and bonus to ocean companies	23,803 13 6		24,870 13 4	
Light dues, interprovincial and other charges	6,610 8 0		5,630 8 7	
		30,414 1 6		30,501 1 11
Receipts.				
Postages collected in England and in the Colony	28,375 5 9		24,812 19 1	
Payments by non-contracting Colonies	4,535 8 11		4,958 17 3	
		32,910 14 8		29,771 16 4
Profit to the Colony		2,496 13 2		—
Cost to the Colony		—		729 5 7

Direct Steam Service, New Zealand Shipping Company.

	1886.		1887.	
Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Company on correspondence, including bonus	24,773 3 9		22,009 15 7	
Light dues and interprovincial services	3,936 0 0		3,936 0 0	
		28,709 3 9		25,945 15 7
Receipts.				
Postages collected in England and the Colony		17,638 14 1		19,238 3 0
Cost to the Colony		11,070 9 8		6,707 12 7

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Colombo-Brindisi and Suez-Brindisi Services.

	1886.		1887.	
Payments.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Victoria and New South Wales - - - -	2,024 15 8		1,886 2 6	
Intercolonial services, &c. -	285 2 9		209 6 9	
		2,309 18 5		2,095 9 3
Receipts.				
Postages collected in England and the Colony - -		1,381 18 2		1,276 11 0
Cost to the Colony -		928 0 3		818 18 3

The total amount of postages collected for all services was 45,327*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, against 47,395*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* in 1886.

Average time of delivery of mails.

The average number of days in 1887 within which the mails were delivered between London and each of the under-mentioned ports in New Zealand was as follows :—

	San Francisco Service.	Direct service.	P. and O. Mail Line.	Orient Line.
London to Auckland - -	37·23	46·77	46·12	44·46
London to Wellington - -	39·00	44·00	46·42	44·85
London to Christchurch - -	—	45·31	45·88	44·42
London to Dunedin - -	40·62	45·62	—	—
London to Bluff - -	—	46·38	44·58	43·04

Electric telegraph.

There were 4,646 miles of telegraph line open at the end of 1887, requiring 11,375 miles of wire. 1,835,394 messages were transmitted during the year. Of these the private and press messages numbered 1,589,771, yielding a revenue of 86,005*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* There was an increase in the year of 6,054 in the number of private and press messages, but a decrease of 2,379*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* in the revenue. The Government messages numbered 245,623 in 1887, against 252,529 in 1886.

The total revenue of the Electric Telegraph Department, including that from money order telegrams and incidental receipts, was 106,548*l.* 4*s.*, and the total expenditure 97,901*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*

Telephones.

There were 11 telephone exchanges on the 31st March 1888, having an aggregate of 2,152 connexions. The number of miles of wire laid was 1,310. The subscriptions received during the year amounted to 16,881*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, being on an average 7*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* for each subscriber. The gross expenses, including 10 per cent. on the capital cost for wear and tear, amounted to 11,038*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* The balance of revenue over working expenses was thus 5,843*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, equivalent to a return of 10·96 per cent. on the capital cost.

Rates of wages.

The average rates of wages were decidedly lower in 1887 than in the previous year. The depression that has existed, and the

low prices of stock and farm produce, have necessitated a retrogression from the higher prices demanded for labour hitherto. The following were some of the ruling rates during 1887. The rates vary greatly in different parts of the Colony, generally ruling highest in the gold-fields:—

Farm labourers, with board	from 12*s.* to 25*s.* per week.
„ without board	from 6*s.* to 8*s.* per day.
Ploughmen, with board	from 10*s.* to 30*s.* per week.
„ without board	from 5*s.* to 9*s.* per day.
Shepherds, with board	from 39*l.* to 80*l.* per annum.
Masons, plasterers, and bricklayers	from 8*s.* to 16*s.* per day.
Carpenters	from 8*s.* to 14*s.* 6*d.* per day.
Married couples as servants, without family, with board	from 50*l.* to 90*l.* per annum.
General house servants, with board	from 6*s.* to 14*s.* per week.
Housemaids, with board	from 6*s.* to 15*s.* per week.
Needlewomen, without board	from 3*s.* to 5*s.* per day.
General labourers	from 4*s.* to 8*s.* per day.
Seamen, with board	from 3*l.* to 7*l.* per month.

FINANCE, ACCUMULATION, AND PRODUCTION.

Finance.

Revenue of General Government.

The general ordinary and territorial revenue of the Colony received during the year ending the 31st December 1887 amounted to 3,463,495*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, of which 3,141,572*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* was ordinary and 321,922*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* territorial revenue. Of the ordinary revenue the receipts from Customs amounted to 1,273,236*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*

The following were the amounts of revenue realised by Customs duties on imports in each of the past 10 years:—

Year.	—	Increase.	Decrease.	Rate per cent. of Increase or Decrease.	Customs Revenue per Head of Population.	
					Excluding Maoris.	Including Maoris.
	£	£	£		£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1878	1,341,511	133,752	—	11·07	3 3 4	2 17 6
1879	1,234,842	—	106,669	7·95	2 15 1	2 10 2
1880	1,258,114	23,272	—	1·96	2 13 1	2 8 6
1881	1,421,609	163,495	—	12·99	2 17 7	2 12 11
1882	1,515,906	94,297	—	6·63	2 19 6	2 14 9
1883	1,414,182	—	101,724	6·71	2 13 5	2 9 4
1884	1,413,014	—	1,168	0·08	2 11 2	2 7 4
1885	1,427,978	14,964	—	1·06	2 9 10	2 6 5
1886	1,311,808	—	116,170	8·13	2 5 1	2 2 0
1887	1,280,585	—	31,223	2·38	2 2 11	2 0 1

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The above amounts of Customs duties represent the actual collection in each year. They differ from those given in the statements of ordinary revenue, which do not include the collections after bank hours on the last day of the year.

The following were the amounts of revenue from Customs duties in the several Australasian Colonies in 1887, and the rates per head of population :—

	Customs Revenue in 1887.	Number of Mean Population.	Amount per head of Population.
	£		£ s. d.
Queensland - -	1,083,088	354,777	3 1 0
New South Wales -	2,003,194	1,022,442	1 19 2
Victoria - - -	2,264,773	1,019,700	2 4 5
South Australia - -	468,889	313,357	1 5 9
Western Australia -	170,972	41,699	4 2 0
Tasmania - -	282,307	139,845	2 0 4
New Zealand—			
Excluding Maoris -	1,280,585	596,374	2 2 11
Including Maoris -		638,343	2 0 1

Taxation.

The amount of the ordinary revenue raised from taxation in the calendar year 1887, and inclusive of the Customs revenue, was 1,657,664*l.* That amount does not represent properly the actual taxation for the year on account of the property tax being collected in the latter part of one year and the beginning of the next, and, as the collections in the end and beginning of the year frequently vary very widely in amount, the actual taxation is more correctly ascertained by including all the tax collected on the assessment for the year, that is, by taking the amount of the property tax collected in the financial year ending the 31st March. The following statement made on that basis shows the total amount of revenue raised by taxation in each of the past 10 years, with the rate per head of the population :—

Year.	Amount of Revenue raised by Taxation.*	Amount per head of Population (excluding Maoris).
	£	£ s. d.
1878 - - - -	1,519,505	3 11 9
1879 - - - -	1,447,717	3 4 7
1880 - - - -	1,755,414	3 14 0
1881 - - - -	1,890,679	3 16 8
1882 - - - -	1,956,557	3 16 10
1883 - - - -	1,957,080	3 13 11
1884 - - - -	1,815,674	3 5 9
1885 - - - -	2,016,730	3 10 10
1886 - - - -	1,882,050	3 4 8
1887 - - - -	1,876,235	3 2 11

* Including property tax collected in the financial year ending the 31st March following.

As the Maoris contribute somewhat to the Customs revenue, an allowance should be made on that account to ascertain more correctly the amount of taxation per head of the Europeans. It has been shown in figures given above that by including the Maori population the Customs duties per head of the rest of the population would be reduced by 2*s.* 10*d.* If this amount be deducted from the taxation per head given for 1887 the rate would be reduced from 3*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* to 3*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* This last rate may therefore fairly be used for comparison with the rates in the neighbouring Colonies.

The following are the rates of taxation per head in the Australian Colonies in 1887 :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Queensland - - - -	3	12	5
New South Wales - - -	2	12	2
Victoria* - - - -	2	14	8
South Australia - - -	2	1	5
Western Australia - - -	4	10	8
Tasmania - - - -	2	13	8
New Zealand—			
Without allowance for Customs duties indirectly paid by Maoris - -	3	2	11
Allowing for Customs taxation paid indirectly by Maoris - -	3	0	1

Territorial revenue.

The territorial revenue in 1887 amounted to 321,922*l.*, against a similar revenue of 338,125*l.* in 1886. Of this, the land sales for cash amounted to 32,260*l.*, against 51,488*l.* in 1886, and 97,743*l.* in 1885. The receipts on account of land on deferred payments were 47,872*l.* in 1887, and 49,760*l.* in 1886.

The largest source of revenue is that derived from depasturing licenses and assessments, rents, &c., which amounted to 172,937*l.* in 1887, and 178,300*l.* in 1886.

Expenditure of General Government.

There are two classes of expenditure, viz., that out of revenue and that out of loans. The ordinary and territorial expenditure chargeable against revenue amounted in 1887 to 3,954,289*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* The expenditure brought to book in the accounts of the Treasury is in excess of this amount by 258,184*l.*; but "The Consolidated Stock Act, 1884," authorised the creation of stock to the amount of the annual increases of the sinking fund, the proceeds of such stock to form part of the Consolidated Fund.

As the amount so raised by loan practically meets part of the charges of the sinking fund, a reduction has been made in respect of the payments on account of sinking fund, equivalent to the proceeds of debentures issued under that Act, in order that the actual expenditure chargeable against revenue might be shown.

The charges of the public debt entailed an expenditure of 1,757,968*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, but the amount of debentures raised under the Act referred to above amounted to 258,184*l.* The expenditure

* For the financial year 1886–87.

on account of railways amounted to 653,363*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, and that for public instruction to 383,988*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*

Loan expenditure.

The expenditure in 1887 charged against loans amounted to 1,737,850*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* Of this, the sum of 250,000*l.* consisted of repayments of advances. The expenditure on account of actual services was thus 1,487,850*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* Of this amount, railway construction absorbed 820,289*l.*, roads 230,629*l.*, public buildings 113,963*l.*, lighthouses, harbour works, and defences 116,298*l.*, and the purchase of native lands 39,256*l.*

Revenue of General Government and local bodies.

Besides the revenue raised by the General Government, the county and borough councils, and the town, road, river, harbour, and drainage boards, levy rates and obtain revenue from other sources.

To give a just idea of the full cost of government to the people in the year 1887, the revenue of the local bodies must be added to that of the General Government. This is done in the following statement:—

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
General Government for the year ending 31st December 1887 - -				3,463,495	8	8
Local bodies revenue (county and borough councils, town, road, and river boards, for the year ending 31st March 1888, and for the drainage and harbour boards for the year ending 31st December 1887)* -	1,228,898	18	4			
Deduct amount of receipts from the Government - -	328,802	13	4			
				900,096	5	0
Total revenue - - -				4,363,591	13	8

Public debt.

The public debt of the Colony on the 31st December 1887 amounted to 38,225,537*l.*, but, as the accrued sinking fund amounted to 3,271,502*l.*, the net indebtedness was only 34,954,035*l.*, being at the rate of 57*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population, exclusive of Maoris. This does not include the outstanding loans of the various local bodies, which amounted to 5,812,803*l.*

The large amount of indebtedness per head of the population naturally raises the question as to the ability of the Colony to bear the burden; but the debt of the Colony must not be compared

* The payments out of general revenue to the local bodies as shown in the finance tables are for the year ending the 31st December 1887, whereas the corresponding amounts shown in this table are for the financial year ending the 31st March 1888.

with the debts of European countries, which have been chiefly incurred for unremunerative purposes, such as costs of wars, to make good deficiencies in revenue, &c. In New Zealand nearly three fourths of the amount of the public debt, and almost, if not quite, the whole amount of the debt of the local bodies, has been spent on railways and public works of various kinds.

Loans mainly expended on productive works, &c.

The expenditure out of loans on public works of a directly reproductive character to the 31st March 1888 was :—

	£
Railways - - - -	14,466,705
Telegraphs - - - -	561,963
Water supply on gold-fields - -	559,941
Total - - -	15,588,609

The following exhibits the expenditure out of loans on works or services of an indirectly reproductive character, by their effects on the opening up of the country and consequent settlement, increase of trade, &c. :—

	£
Immigration - - -	2,133,669
Roads and bridges, including grants and payments to road boards -	3,363,551
Land purchases - - -	1,141,288
Coal mines and thermal springs -	21,648
Total - - -	6,660,156

The loan expenditure on public buildings has been 1,687,901*l.*, and on lighthouses, harbour works, and defences 822,125*l.* The aggregate of these amounts is 24,758,791*l.* This does not include the expenditure by local bodies on harbours, roads, and other public works out of loans raised by them, nor, with the exception of the cost of the provincial railways, does it include the amounts expended out of loans by the Provincial Governments before their abolition on immigration and public works.

In the consideration of this question of the public assets, the private wealth and the private income of the Colony should be taken into calculation.

Value of public property in Colony.

In 1887 the then Colonial Treasurer, Sir Julius Vogel, in his Financial Statement, gave the following as the value of public property in March 1886 :—

	£
Railways (cost) - - -	13,453,363
Telegraphs, &c. (cost) - -	523,727
Lighthouses (cost) - - -	150,895
Buildings - - - -	2,250,000
Harbours - - - -	2,500,000
Water supply on gold-fields - -	500,000
Total - - -	19,377,985

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Probably, for the immediate purpose of a set-off to the debt, only those public works of a reproductive character should be included, viz., railways, telegraphs, and water supply on gold-fields, their aggregate cost to the 31st March 1888 having been 15,588,609*l.*

Total wealth of Colony.

In October 1885, when the last assessment for the property tax was made, the real estate in the Colony, including Crown lands and educational, church, municipal, and other reserves, but exclusive of all native lands, was returned as of the value of 110,529,554*l.* The value of the personal property of the public was returned at 82,540,315*l.* To these may be added the value of the reproductive public works, 15,588,609*l.*, giving a total of assets and wealth amounting to 208,658,478*l.*, as representing what is available either for sale or for taxing purposes.

Value of Crown lands.

The present selling value of the Crown lands is estimated at 5,750,000*l.*, exclusive of lands of the value of 1,250,000*l.* allocated to the Midland Railway Company. Although by the alienation of Crown lands the value of this asset is annually reduced, yet the process of settlement adds to the private wealth in the Colony, and property is created which both directly and indirectly becomes an additional source of revenue.

Private wealth.

The private wealth, according to the property-tax returns in October 1885, was as follows:—

	£
Real estate - - - -	89,601,765
Furniture and household goods -	4,288,124
Live stock - - - -	8,634,188
Merchandise, produce, and agricultural implements - - -	11,658,369
Vessels, steam and sailing - -	1,226,124
All other property, including deposits in banks - - - -	21,729,747
Gross private wealth -	137,138,317

The value of the private wealth, exclusive of the value of the real estate, is less than the amount of 82,540,315*l.* previously given as the value of personal property by 35,003,763*l.*, the amount of debts due to persons who made returns to the Property-tax Department; 26,181,610*l.* being the amount of these debts secured on mortgage, and 8,822,153*l.* being that of the unsecured debts. No deductions have been made from the values of real estates or of personal properties belonging to the persons who are liable for those debts, and it is evident that the debts themselves, apart from the property that would be required for their payment, cannot be considered as a source of wealth; for this reason the amounts thereof, even although nominal assets of the creditors, have been excluded from the above statement of private wealth.

Foreign indebtedness of individuals.

The above amount of private wealth in the Colony gives an average of 240*l.* per head of the population (572,455) in October

1885 ; but the debts due to foreign creditors which were secured on mortgage amounted to 16,832,507*l.*, and there was also a considerable amount of foreign indebtedness not secured by mortgage, the amount of which can only be estimated.

This indebtedness consists chiefly of sums due for merchandise and goods. The amount has been roughly estimated in the Property-tax Department at 7,000,000*l.* ; even this appears too high when it is considered that the value of all merchandise, including goods on consignment and stock-in-trade, was returned at only 9,199,121*l.* Deducting 7,000,000*l.*, as representing the amount of unsecured foreign indebtedness, and 16,832,507*l.*, the amount of secured foreign indebtedness, from the above amount of 137,138,317*l.*, the remainder, 113,305,810*l.*, represents the net private wealth in the Colony in October 1885, being an average of nearly 198*l.* per head of the then population.

Professor Brown's calculation of private wealth.

The following estimate of private wealth was made by Professor Brown, of the Otago University,* from the probate returns. He ascertained from the Stamp Office in this Colony the total amount of the values of properties left by will during a period of five preceding years (with the exception of the values of properties left to husband or wife, respecting which no information could be obtained), and having divided the amount by the number of persons who died during the period he took the result, which represented the average wealth of each deceased person, as also representing the average wealth of each person living. By means of information obtained from other sources he has brought out similar averages for Victoria, New South Wales, and the United Kingdom :—

Years.	Amount sworn to.	Total Number of Deaths.	Average Amount left by each Person.	Total Wealth.
New Zealand.	£		£	£
1882–86 - -	6,366,736	29,718	214	119,305,000
Victoria.				
1872–76 - -	11,699,757	63,402	185	143,569,620
1877–81 - -	13,732,848	61,552	223	186,578,971
1882–86 - -	21,175,139	69,461	305	285,527,885
New South Wales.				
1882–86 - -	22,351,858	69,154	323	316,927,600
The United Kingdom.				
1882–86 - -	866,484,000	3,453,453	250	9,135,122,250

* "The Wealth and Annual Production of New Zealand," by Mainwaring Brown, M.A., Professor of Political Economy in the University of Otago.

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The wealth per head in New Zealand given by this method is greater than that arrived at by a consideration of the property-tax returns, but these last might, as a matter of course, be considered extremely low, as the lowest possible estimates of value would be given when a tax calculated on the amounts was to be imposed.

In the above amount of 214*l.* per head no account is taken of the values of properties left by will to the husband or wife only. The aggregate must be considerable, although the average value of such properties is doubtless very much less than the average of the values of other properties left by will. The amount of 214*l.* is, therefore, on the system adopted, below the amount that should be given to represent the wealth of the Colony. This defect, however, applies in the case of the other Colonies and England. It is one of the results of the freedom of bequests to wife or husband from succession duties.

Value of annual production of Colony according to Professor Brown.

Taking the results of the census of 1886 as a basis for calculation, Professor Brown has estimated the total annual produce of the Colony at over 20½ millions, thus :—

	£
Estimated produce of building trades -	1,600,000
Estimated produce of remainder of industrial class* - - -	2,375,000
Estimated produce of half of labourers and others* - - -	852,000
Net produce of agriculture and pasture-	10,566,000
Mining produce - - -	1,164,000
Net produce of manufactures (exclusive of value of material used) - -	3,733,000
Kauri gum, bark, fungus, phormium, and fishing produce - -	380,000
	20,670,000

The Professor stated in reference to this amount: "The total "income of the Colony is, of course, considerably larger than "this 20½ millions, though it is really only the same wealth passed "from hand to hand by the instrumentality of money. I have tried "to arrive at an estimate of it by going through all the classes "of persons in the census, and allotting incomes to them, and "have tested this by comparison with the average results obtained "in the leading industries, and by whatever other tests I could "obtain from the works of the leading statisticians; the result "is, though I have some hesitation in giving it, that I think the "total amount cannot be less than 30,000,000*l.*, while it may be "considerably more. If we accept this estimate, we get an "average income per head of over 51*l.*, which may be compared "with Mr. Giffen's estimate for the United Kingdom in 1883 of "a total of 1,270,000,000*l.*, or about 35*l.* a head."

* A class in the census table of occupations.

The expenditure on railways to the 31st March 1888 (14,466,704*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*), includes the valuation of the works constructed by the provinces, 1,104,281*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, and the sum of 354,487*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* expended on the purchase of district lines. The number of miles of these railways open for traffic on the above date was 1,753 miles 53 chains, of which the total cost was 13,352,978*l.*; the average cost per mile having thus been 7,613*l.*

The cash revenue for the year amounted to 994,843*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, being a decrease of 3,924*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* on the revenue received in 1886; but, as the expenditure was reduced from 669,072*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* in 1886 to 687,328*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* in 1887, the net revenue in 1887 was greater than that in 1886 by 7,819*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, although the length of miles open for traffic was greater by 32 miles. The expenditure amounted to 69·09 per cent. of the revenue in 1887, against 69·99 per cent. in 1886. The net cash revenue was at the rate of 2*l.* 6*s.* per centum on the total cost of the opened lines.

The following statement shows the number of miles open, the number of train-miles travelled and passengers carried, also the goods traffic, for the three past years:—

	Length open.	Train-mileage.	Passengers.	Season Tickets issued.	Goods and Live Stock.*
1885-86 - - -	1,613	3,020,550	3,362,266†	10,717	1,856,733
1886-87 - - -	1,727	3,008,949	3,426,403†	11,821	1,783,524
1887-88 - - -	1,758	2,944,786	3,451,850†	11,518	1,770,638

The cash revenue in 1887–88 yielded an average of 570*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* per mile of railway, and the expenditure amounted on an average to 394*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* The following statement gives the particulars of the revenue and expenditure for the past three years:—

	Revenue.						Expenditure.	Net Revenue.	Percentage of Expenditure to Revenue.
	Passenger Fares.	Parcels and Luggage.	Goods and Live Stock.	Rents and Miscellaneous.	District Railways.	Total.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885-86 - -	363,377	33,271	617,549	27,960	5,261	1,047,418	690,340	357,078	65·91
1886-87 - -	356,253	33,749	581,350	27,416	‡	998,768	699,072	299,696	69·99
1887-88 - -	352,726	34,727	579,359	28,031	‡	994,843	687,328	307,515	69·09

The average revenue per train mile was 6*s.* 11*d.* in 1885–86, 6*s.* 7½*d.* in 1886–87, and 6*s.* 9*d.* in 1887–88. The average expenditure per train mile was 4*s.* 6·85*d.* in 1885–86, 4*s.* 7·76*d.*

* The equivalent tonnage for live stock has been given.
† Not including passengers who held season tickets.
‡ Merged into the other railways in 1886–87.

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Accumulation.

Banks. The total average liabilities and assets of the banks within the Colony for each of the past two years were as follows:—

	1886.			1887.					
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Liabilities - -	11,603,194	4	10	11,995,495	11	9	Incr. 392,301	6	11
Assets - -	19,041,827	8	6	18,799,847	10	1	Decr. 241,979	18	5

The average amount of deposits not bearing interest, exclusive of Government deposits, decreased from 3,190,722*l.* in 1886 to 3,180,830*l.*, or by 9,892*l.* The deposits bearing interest increased from 6,804,820*l.* in 1886 to 7,351,621*l.*, or by 546,801*l.* There was thus an increase of 536,909*l.* in the average deposits of both classes. The deposits bearing interest amounted to 69·8 per cent. of the total deposits, exclusive of those of the Government, against 68·1 per cent. in 1886, and 63·5 per cent. in 1885.

The following shows the average amount of notes in circulation, notes and bills discounted, and bullion and specie in the banks in each of the two past years:—

	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Notes in circulation -	943,075	896,517	—	46,558
Notes and bills discounted	4,406,396	3,604,937	—	801,459
Specie and bullion -	2,177,544	2,342,052	164,508	—

The total paid up capital at the end of the year was 6,000,000*l.*, and the aggregate nominal amount of the reserve funds at the time of declaring the last dividend was 3,367,434*l.* The term "nominal amount" of the reserve funds has been used, as at the late meetings of the Bank of New Zealand it has been stated that the whole of the reserve fund of that bank has been lost. The reduction of the total of the reserve funds by the amount of the reserve fund of this bank would bring it to 2,861,328*l.*

Post Office Savings Bank. There were 283 Post Office Savings Banks at the end of 1887, an increase of 12 during the year.

The deposits received during the year amounted to 1,312,151*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, being in excess of the deposits in 1886 by 63,745*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, but less than those in 1885 by 28,850*l.*

The withdrawals during the year amounted to 1,182,409*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, being less than the deposits by 129,741*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* The withdrawals in 1887 were less in amount than those in 1886 by 153,877*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* There remained open at the end of the year 79,724 accounts, against 74,871 in 1886, and 69,957 in 1885. The total amount standing to the credit of all accounts in 1887 was 1,813,084*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, representing an average of 22*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* Although the total amount at credit in 1887 was greater than that in 1886 by 197,105*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, yet, owing to the increase in the number of accounts, the average amount standing to the credit of each account was greater in 1887 by only 1*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*

Ordinary savings banks.

There are seven savings banks not connected with the Post Office Savings Banks in the Colony. The total of the amounts deposited therein in 1887 was 415,908*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*, of which the sum of only 120*l.* 5*s.* was deposited by Maoris. The withdrawals in the year amounted to 362,785*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*, being less than the deposits by 53,123*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* The number of persons having accounts at these banks in December 1887 was 17,772, and the total amount at the credit of the depositors was 594,691*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, giving an average of 33*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* to each account.

The total increase in 1887 in the deposits in the three classes of banks, viz., ordinary banks, Post Office Savings Banks, and other savings banks, amounted to 611,717*l.*

Building societies.

The number of registered building societies in the Colony on the 31st December 1887 was 50, an increase of 2 on the number in 1886. Of these, five were incorporated in 1887, and no returns have been received from them.

These were all of a permanent character. In the 45 societies that made returns there were 4,506 investing shares and 995 paid-up shares.

The total income during the year amounted to 821,736*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, of which the deposits received amounted to 348,024*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

The assets at the end of the year amounted to 1,112,174*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* The liabilities amounted to 1,116,800*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, being in excess of the assets by 4,626*l.* 1*s.*, but the liabilities included the amount of the reserve fund and the amounts due to holders of shares. The liabilities to creditors outside the societies amounted to 353,742*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*

Friendly societies.

Membership and funds.

Two hundred and ninety lodges, courts, tents, &c. of various friendly societies made returns to the Registrar in 1886. The totals relating to both membership and funds exhibit a diminution in numbers and values as compared with those for the year 1885. This is not due to any actual loss, but to the fact that some secretaries did not furnish the returns a second time to take the place of those which had been destroyed by fire when the Government Post Office was burnt. The number of members on the 31st December of that year was 21,679.

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The total value of the assets of these societies at the end of 1886 was 334,675*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, against 322,264*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* at the end of 1885. The assets at the end of 1886 were equivalent to 15*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* per member, against 14*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* in 1885.

Of the total assets, the value of the sick and funeral benefit funds amounted to 295,667*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, and the management funds, goods, &c. to 39,008*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*

Of the total assets at the end of the year, only 208,763*l.*, equivalent to 70·66 per cent. of the value of the benefit funds, was invested at interest. Of this amount, the sum of 141,895*l.* was lent on mortgage of real property, at an average rate of interest of 7·8 per cent.; 44,027*l.* were deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank and other banks, realising an average of 5·3 per cent.; 9,511*l.* were in Government or municipal debentures, yielding an average of 6·6 per cent. interest; and 13,330*l.* were otherwise invested, at an average of 7·1 per cent.

Receipts and expenditure of friendly societies.

The receipts of these societies in 1886 on account of the sick and funeral funds amounted to 48,045*l.*, of which the contributions by members amounted to 28,538*l.*

The sum of 18,221*l.* was given as sick-pay to members, and the sum of 19,881*l.* was paid for medical attendance and medicine. The funeral donations amounted to 3,827*l.*

Joint-stock companies.

Thirty-nine joint-stock companies, with a nominal aggregate capital amounting to 369,510*l.*, were registered during the year. Of these, 11 were gold or silver mining or dredging companies, and five were dairy factory companies.

Production.

Crown lands alienated.

Twenty-one thousand one hundred and fifty-four acres of Crown land were sold for cash or money scrip during the year, the cash received having amounted to 25,135*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, and the scrip to 195*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* The lands absolutely disposed of without sale amounted to 316,488 acres, of which the reserves set apart for public purposes amounted to 107,507 acres, and the grants to Europeans or natives under Native Reserves Acts, &c., or in fulfilment of engagements, amounted to 124,815 acres, and grants under the Native Land Acts to 81,598 acres.

The total area of land alienated from the foundation of the Colony to the 31st December 1887 amounted to 18,914,371 acres. This does not include the lands sold by natives direct to Europeans, for which no Crown grants have been issued. Although the exact quantity so sold which still remains without Crown grants cannot be ascertained, it is believed to be very small.

Before referring to the results of each of the various systems in operation in 1887 for the disposal of Crown lands, it seems desirable to present a short *précis* of the systems now in force established by the Land Acts passed on the 23rd December 1887

and the 28th August 1888. The most important alterations made by those Acts are the following :—

1. Applicants for *any* rural lands may elect under which system they will occupy, instead of being limited in selection, as heretofore, to lands specially set apart for each kind of occupation.

2. The right of purchase has been limited to 640 acres of first-class land and 2,000 acres of second-class land in any land district, thus hindering the creation of large estates, and preventing lands being shut up from settlement.

3. The limit of area for selection on the deferred payment system has been increased from 320 acres to 640 acres of first or second-class land.

4. The right of purchase of the freehold by perpetual lease-holders may now be exercised at any time after the conditions of improvement have been complied with, instead of only after six and within twelve years if the conditions have been complied with.

5. The limit of the areas of small grazing runs has been increased from 5,000 to 20,000 acres.

System of Disposal of Crown Lands under the Land Acts of 1887 *and* 1888.

Methods of disposing of Crown lands.

Rural lands are open for application on immediate or deferred payments, or on perpetual lease, at option of applicant.

1. *Immediate payment* (area restricted to 640 acres of first-class land and 2,000 acres of second-class land in any one land district) :—

Town lands sold by auction; minimum upset price, 30*l.* per acre.

Suburban lands, sold by auction ; minimum upset price, 3*l.* per acre.

Village lands (section under 1 acre), offered on application, at 5*l.* per section.

Village lands (termed "small farms," 1 to 50 acres), offered on application, at not less than 1*l.* per acre.

Rural lands, sold by auction or on application, up to 2*l.* per acre, according to quality.

2. *Deferred Payment* (area restricted to 640 acres of first or second-class land) :—

Suburban lands, sold at 4*l.* 10*s.* per acre.

Rural lands, sold at not less than 1*l.* per acre, except in certain parts, where price may be less, according to quality.

Village land, sections under 1 acre, and small farms, 1 to 50 acres, not less than 1*l.* per acre.

3. *Lease for First Term of* 30 *Years, with Perpetual Right of Renewal at Intervals of* 21 *Years* (area restricted to 640 acres of first-class land or 2,000 acres of second-class land):—

Land taken up under this system is subject to a rental of 5 per centum on the capital value, usually 1*l.* per

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acre, with right of purchase as soon as conditions of improvement have been complied with.

4. *Homestead System* (area restricted to 200 acres per family or household).

5. *Agricultural Lease on Goldfields* :—

In force in Otago. Permits of land being made available for agriculture, while liable to be taken for mining purposes. Upset price, 1*l.* per acre.

6. *Small Grazing Runs* (area not exceeding 20,000 acres) :—

Such runs are let by public auction for a term of 21 years, with right of renewal for a second term of 21 years. The lessee has the exclusive right of the natural pasturage, and may cultivate any part or all of the area leased. At the end of the term of lease full valuation is allowed for improvements. The upset price is 2½ per cent. on capital value. Recent sales realised from 3*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* per acre.

7. *Pastoral Runs* :—

These comprise about 11,000,000 acres of natural pasturage, and are let in areas from 5,000 acres and upwards for terms not exceeding 21 years. The average rental is about 4*d.* per acre. Twelve months before a lease falls in the run is offered for sale by auction for another term. Valuation not exceeding three years' rental is allowed the outgoing tenant for improvements. There is no restriction as to the number of runs which may be leased by one person or company.

Deferred payment system.

38,831 acres 3 roods 10 perches were taken up on the deferred payment system in 1887. The total area of land taken up on this system from its commencement to the 31st December 1887 amounted to 988,020 acres 1 rood 21 perches. Of this quantity the land forfeited amounted to 150,017 acres 3 roods 26 perches, and that finally alienated to 317,928 acres 1 rood. The cash received for the land taken up to the end of 1887 amounted to 771,776*l.* 6*s.* The following statement gives the number of acres taken up in each of the past eight years :—

	Acres.
1880 - - - - -	136,739
1881 - - - - -	109,769
1882 - - - - -	83,930
1883 - - - - -	138,414
1884 - - - - -	48,502
1885 - - - - -	58,722
1886 - - - - -	52,711
1887 - - - - -	38,832

The land, held on this system, the purchase of which had not been completed at the end of the year amounted to 520,074 acres.

Village settlements.

The lands in the village settlements are partly disposed of upon deferred payments and partly for cash. The transactions have been included under the sales of land for cash or on deferred payments, but some details are given in order to show the working of the system.

Fifty-five village sections, of an area of 42 acres 1 rood 34 perches, were taken up for cash during the year, and 64, of a total area of 37 acres and 15 perches, on deferred payments; 14 small farm selections, of a total area of 113 acres and 9 perches, were taken up for cash; and 103, representing 1,374 acres 2 roods 38 perches, were taken up on deferred payments.

The following shows the number and area of selections to the 31st December 1887:—

	No.	A.	R.	P.
Village sections for cash -	648	404	1	9
Village sections on deferred payments - -	291	167	0	1
Small farm sections for cash	403	3,848	2	23
Small farm sections on deferred payments - -	915	11,550	1	24
The freeholds acquired during the period were—				
Village sections -	117	70	3	1
Small farm sections -	298	3,471	2	9
The forfeitures in the same period were—				
Village sections	67	43	3	5
Small farm sections -	96	1,064	0	8

Perpetual leases.

Four hundred and fifty holdings, containing an aggregate area of 64,595 acres, were taken up on perpetual leases during the past year. The total area in occupation under the perpetual lease system on the 31st December 1887 was 150,218 acres, in 969 holdings.

Depasturing and other leases.

The lands held from Government on depasturing and other leases (exclusive of small grazing runs) amounted to 10,790,904 acres at the end of 1887, yielding an annual revenue of 167,397*l.* The agricultural lease holdings contained an aggregate area of 133,096 acres, yielding 9,524*l.* of annual rental. 38,259 acres were held on lease for mineral and other purposes at a total rental of 11,824*l.*

Small grazing runs.

Thirty-nine small grazing runs, containing 57,586 acres, were taken up during the year. The total number of holdings of this kind on the 31st December last was 137, containing 209,363 acres. The rental received during the year for these runs was 4,983*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* The rents for these runs taken up in 1887 varied from $5\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $8\frac{1}{4}d.$ per acre per annum.

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Occupied holdings.

In March 1886 there were 36,485 occupied holdings exceeding 1 acre in extent, exclusive of holdings under Crown pastoral leases. Of these, one-fourth, or 9,172 holdings, containing 42,566 acres, were from 1 to 10 acres in extent. The total number of holdings not exceeding 100 acres in extent was 21,693; 9,087 holdings were from 100 to 320 acres, 2,804 from 300 to 640 acres, 977 from 640 to 1,000 acres, 1,396 from 1,000 to 5,000 acres, 392 from 5,000 to 20,000 acres, 106 from 20,000 to 50,000 acres, 26 from 50,000 to 100,000 acres, and 4 were upwards of 100,000 acres. The aggregate of the areas of all these holdings was 17,077,074 acres, of which 2,017,588 were rented from natives, including native reserves.

Agricultural statistics.

A collection is annually made in the month of February of the statistics of the various crops, &c. cultivated on holdings above 1 acre in extent, exclusive of lands occupied by Maoris. As the harvest is generally incomplete when the statistics are collected, the time varying much according to the situation of the land and its geographical position, being usually much earlier in the northern than in the southern parts of the Colony, the estimates of produce can only be considered as more or less approximate, according to the condition of the crops and the judgment of the farmer. Although there is no means of properly checking the estimates given, it is believed that they are, on the whole, in excess of the actual results of the harvest.

Cultivated holdings.

The number of cultivated holdings over 1 acre in extent in February 1888 was 34,743, exclusive of Maori holdings. This was an increase of 1,411 on the number in 1887, and of 2,980 on the number in 1886.

It will be observed that these holdings fall far short in number of the holdings previously given; but in this case only holdings on which there are actual cultivations or artificial grasses are given, exclusive of gardens attached to residences. In the former case all occupied holdings are given, whether cultivated or not, with the exception of Crown pastoral runs.

The proportion of persons to each holding was 17·37 in 1888, against 17·68 in 1887, and 18·1 in 1886.

The extent of land in cultivation (including grass-sown land, and land broken up but not in crop) amounted to 7,284,752 acres, being an increase on the extent in 1887 of 439,575 acres; 81·50 per cent. of the land was in artificial grass, against 81·13 in 1887; and 10·14 per cent. was in grain crops, against 9·67 per cent. in the previous year. The area and proportion under grain crops were greatest in Canterbury, 380,168 acres, and 20·61 per cent.; and next greatest in Otago, 270,566 acres, or 15·96 per cent. The next largest area under grain crop was in Auckland, 23,473 acres, but the proportion to all cultivation was only 2·64 per cent.

Wheat.

Three hundred and fifty-seven thousand three hundred and fifty-nine acres were under wheat at the beginning of 1888. This was an increase of 104,334 acres, showing increased confidence by farmers in the results of wheat cultivation, as the extent of land under wheat was greater in 1887 by 79,134 acres than in 1886. The produce in 1888 was estimated at 9,424,059 bushels, being at the average rate of 26·37 per acre. As the wheat crop in 1887 was estimated at 6,297,638 bushels, the increased production in 1888 amounts to 3,126,421 bushels.

The extent of land in wheat in New Zealand at the harvest of 1888 was about one-eleventh of the whole quantity of wheat land in the Australasian Colonies, but the produce was about one-fifth of that for all these Colonies. New Zealand gave the largest yield per acre, 26·37 bushels.

The following shows the area and estimated produce for each of the several Colonies:—

	Wheat Crop, 1888.		
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels per Acre.
Queensland - - -	8,248	182,308	22·10
New South Wales - - -	389,390	4,695,849	12·06
Victoria - - - -	1,232,943	13,328,114	10·81
South Australia - - -	1,950,000*	19,012,500*	9·75*
Western Australia - - -	29,491	269,611	9·14
Tasmania - - - -	40,498	675,069	16·67
New Zealand - - -	357,359	9,424,059	26·37
Total - -	4,007,929	47,587,510	—

Consumption of wheat.

The total average consumption of wheat in New Zealand for a period of 11 years (1877–87) amounted to 8·45 bushels per head of the population (including Maoris). This includes the requirements for seed purposes, estimated at 2 bushels per acre. The food consumption, after deducting the necessary quantity for seed, averaged 7·38 bushels per head. Assuming that the area under wheat for the next harvest is about the same as at the last harvest, the wheat crop of 1888—viz., 9,424,059 bushels—should supply sufficient for all the requirements of the Colony, and give a surplus of about 4,000,000 bushels for export.

* There is only an estimate, as no agricultural statistics were collected.

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The following table shows the system adopted for estimating the consumption of wheat in the Colony, and the accruing results:—

Table showing the Amount of Wheat annually retained in the Colony.

Year.	Produce (including estimated Quantity of Maori-grown Wheat and Imports of Wheat and Flour*).	Exports of Wheat and Flour.*	Retained in the Colony.	Used as Seed at 2 Bushels per Acre.	Difference for Food Consumption.	Mean Population (including Maoris).	Proportion per Head for Total retained for Food Consumption.	
							For Food, &c.	Total retained.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Persons.	Bushels	Bushels
1877 - -	4,374,620	906,543	3,468,077	486,812	2,981,265	451,943	6·60	7·66
1878 - -	6,537,770	1,897,354	4,640,416	529,722	4,110,694	467,000	8·80	9·94
1879 - -	6,272,914	2,580,798	3,692,116	540,396	3,151,720	491,886	6·41	7·51
1880 - -	7,801,892	3,147,586	4,654,306	649,898	4,004,408	518,275	7·73	8·98
1881 - -	8,264,167	3,918,107	4,346,060	731,430	3,614,630	537,579	6·72	8·08
1882 - -	8,360,295	3,721,812	4,638,483	781,636	3,856,847	552,991	6·91	8·39
1883 - -	10,329,907	5,195,703	5,134,204	755,412	4,378,792	572,539	7·65	8·97
1884 - -	9,934,101	2,885,390	7,048,711	540,086	6,508,625	595,411	10·93	11·84
1885 - -	6,950,854	1,596,820	5,354,034	347,782	5,006,252	615,757	8·13	8·66
1886 - -	4,290,826	1,675,201	2,615,625	506,050	2,109,575	624,086	3·38	4·19
1887 - -	6,368,140	707,182	5,660,958	614,718	5,046,240	638,343	7·90	8·87
Totals -	79,485,486	28,232,496	51,252,990	6,483,942	44,769,048	6,065,810	Mean. 7·38	Mean. 8·45

The difficulty of correctly estimating the consumption of breadstuffs is shown by the great differences in the estimates arrived at. Mr. Mulhall, in his dictionary of statistics, gives the consumption of wheat per inhabitant as follows:—

	Bushels of 60 lbs. each per Head.
United Kingdom -	330 lbs. equal to 5·50
France - -	455 lbs. equal to 7·58
Germany - -	166 lbs. equal to 2·22

* In equivalent bushels of wheat.

Baron Kolb, according to a statement in the Victorian Year Book for 1886–87, gives the following consumption per head :—

		Bushels of 60 lbs. each per Head.
England - -	450 lbs. equal to	7·05
France - -	495 lbs. equal to	8·25
Prussia - -	345 lbs. equal to	5·75

The Government Statist of Victoria estimated the bushels of wheat annually available for food in the United Kingdom during the 20 years from 1867–86 as varying from 5·03 to 6·17 bushels per head ; this was after deducting the requisite quantity for seed ; but it is uncertain how the seed question has been dealt with in either Mr. Mulhall's or Baron Kolb's estimates. Apparently, Mr. Mulhall's figures for the United Kingdom and France are exclusive of seed requirements, and Baron Kolb's include them.

The quantity of breadstuffs available for annual food consumption per head in Victoria has averaged 5·72 bushels over a period of 47 years, 1840–86 inclusive ; but during the five years 1882–86 it averaged only 4·75 bushels. These amounts do not include seed used.

Mr. Coghlan, the New South Wales Statist, gives the average yearly consumption of breadstuffs per head in that Colony at 6·44 bushels, inclusive of wheat used for seed. As the average quantity retained in New Zealand, exclusive of seed requirements, is 7·38 bushels per head, it appears that the consumption of breadstuffs in this Colony is proportionately greater than in other countries.

Oats.

There was a decrease both in the breadth of land under oats and in the oat crop in 1888 as compared with 1887.

The number of acres under oats for grain was 387,228 in 1887, and 336,474 in 1888, a decrease of 50,754 acres. The produce was estimated in 1887 at 11,973,295 bushels, and in 1888 at 10,512,119 bushels, a decrease of 1,461,176 bushels ; but the quantity of land under oats in 1887 was considerably in excess of that in any previous year. There was an increase in the year of more than 10,000 acres in the quantity of land sown with oats for green food.

The average yield per acre of the oat crop in 1888 was estimated at 31·24 bushels, against an average of 30·92 bushels in 1887. The highest average—36·28 bushels—was in the Marlborough District, but the area was under 4,000 acres. The greatest breadth of land under oats was in the Otago District—180,735 acres, with an average produce of 32·49 bushels per acre. Canterbury had 122,941 acres, averaging 29·60 bushels. The Wellington Provincial District took the third place, with only 10,449 acres, averaging 30·38 bushels to the acre. New Zealand takes the first place among the Australasian Colonies in the cultivation of oats. The extent of land in this crop amounted to nearly three-fifths—57·4 per cent.—of the total extent for all the Colonies, and the

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	Oat Crop, 1888.		
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels per Acre.
Queensland - - -	550	13,343	24·26
New South Wales - - -	19,393	394,762	20·35
Victoria - - - -	199,036	4,561,905	22·92
South Australia - - -	7,264*	88,639*	12·20*
Western Australia - -	1,689	25,424	15·05
Tasmania - - - -	21,169	385,195	18·19
New Zealand - - -	336,474	10,512,119	31·24
Total - -	585,575	15,981,387	—

Barley. There was an increase in the quantity of land sown with barley, from 21,535 acres in 1887 to 27,912 acres in 1888. The crop in 1888 was estimated at 760,874 bushels, or an average of 27·26 bushels per acre. In 1887 the estimated crop averaged 25·94 bushels per acre.

Potatoes. In 1887 the quantity of land planted with potatoes was greater than that in any previous year by 2,860 acres. In 1888 the quantity—25,338 acres—was less than that in 1887 by 2,345 acres. The produce in 1888 was estimated at 138,060 tons, averaging 5·45 tons per acre, against 134,965 tons in 1887, although the land in that crop was then much greater, giving an average of 4·88 tons per acre.

Turnips or rape. The extent of land under turnips or rape was slightly less than in the previous year, having been 318,653 acres in 1887 and 313,293 acres in 1888.

Gardens and orchards. 24,937 acres were stated to have been in gardens or orchards in February 1888, against 22,885 acres in 1887. The increase is entirely in orchards, of which the acres numbered 14,215 in 1887, and 16,329 in 1888; the area of gardens apparently decreased by 62 acres. These do not include gardens if the holdings of which they comprise the whole or part do not exceed 1 acre.

Land in sown grasses. The extent of land in sown grasses in 1888 was 5,937,059 acres, an increase during the year of 383,278 acres. Of this quantity, 2,884,007 acres had been previously ploughed, and 3,053,052 acres not previously broken up had been surface-sown. There was an increase in the year of 83,104 in the number of acres of grass land

* No statistics taken, estimate only.

previously ploughed, against an increase of 300,174 in the number not previously ploughed.

Live stock.

Returns of sheep are sent annually, in the month of May, to the Stock Department, but returns of other stock are only obtained periodically when a census is taken.

Sheep.

The number of sheep on the 31st May 1887, according to the returns made to the Stock Department, was 15,235,561. This shows a decrease in the number of sheep in the Colony since May 1886 of 18,637. The later returns of May 1888 show a still further decrease to the number of 113,428 sheep.

Horses and cattle.

The number of horses and cattle in March 1886 (no later information is available) was as follows:—

Horses - - - - -	187,382
Cattle - - - - -	853,358

The following gives the estimated number of each of these kinds of live stock in the several Australasian Colonies:—

1887.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Horses.
Queensland - - -	12,926,158	4,473,716	305,865
New South Wales - -	46,965,152	1,575,457	390,602
Victoria - - - -	10,623,985	1,333,873	315,000
South Australia - - -	7,254,000	440,000	170,000
Western Australia - -	1,909,940	93,444	41,100
Tasmania - - -	1,547,242	147,092	29,528
New Zealand - - -	15,235,561	853,358*	187,382*
Total - -	96,462,038	8,916,940	1,439,477

New Zealand thus takes second rank among these Colonies for sheep-grazing (or wool-producing), but only fourth place for cattle-breeding.

Coal raised in the Colony.

The output of coal from the various mines in the Colony in 1887 amounted to 558,620 tons, being an increase on the output in 1886 of 24,267 tons. The output in 1878 was 162,218 tons. In the 10 years the imports of coal have decreased from 174,148 tons to 107,230 tons.

The approximate total output of the coal mines to the 31st December 1887 has been 4,618,937 tons.

Extensive coalfields exist in the Colony, coal being found in various parts, and mines being worked in the Provincial Districts of Auckland, Nelson, Canterbury, and Otago. No accurate survey of all the coalfields has yet been made, and the estimates of

* Number at the census of March 1886.

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probable produce are therefore imperfect. The coal is of three different kinds:—

1. *Brown Coal.*—This is coal of an inferior class, valuable for local consumption only. It is of no value for the production of gas or for use in engines, &c. As far as the surveys have been made, it is roughly estimated that the fields of this coal contain about 500,000,000 tons.

2. *Pitch Coal.*—This is a valuable coal for fuel and steam purposes, but does not yield gas. The estimated quantity in the known areas of coalfields of this class is also about 500,000,000 tons.

3. *Bituminous Coal.*—This coal is of a very superior kind, being equal to, and even better than, the best descriptions used in any part of the world. It is especially valuable for gas companies, the small quantity from the Brunner Mine, hitherto available in New Zealand and Australian markets, having been eagerly bought up for gasworks and iron foundries, whose managers generally pay for it from 10 to 20 per cent. more than for any other coal. Engineers of local steamers esteem it 20 per cent. better than the best New South Wales coal for steam purposes. The fields of this class of coal have been estimated to contain about 200,000,000 tons; but as they are found on the west coast of the Middle Island, and partly in somewhat inaccessible districts, where the surveys have been far from complete, the estimate is considered to be very much short of the actual quantity that may be found to be available.

Some very fine petroleum oils have been found in the Colony. In reference to this, Sir James Hector remarks: "There are "three principal localities, and these produce each a distinct kind "of oil—the Sugar Loaves, in the Taranaki Province; Poverty "Bay, on the east coast of the Province of Auckland; and "Manutahi, Waiapu, East Cape. The oil from the first has a "very high specific gravity—·960 to ·964 at 60° Fahr. (water at 1). "It has thus too much carbon in its composition for its commer- "cial success as an illuminating oil, but is capable of producing a "valuable lubricating oil. The second kind from Waiapu, Poverty "Bay, is a true paraffin oil, resembling the Canadian oil. The "third produces a pale-brown oil, nearly or quite transparent— "specific gravity, ·829 at 60° Fahr.—which burns well in a kero- "sene lamp for some time, and is, therefore, of a very superior "class. It contains only traces of paraffin, and produces 84 per "cent. of an illuminating oil fit for use in kerosene lamps by means "of a single distillation. Specimens of oil shales have been found "at Kaikorai and Blueskin, in Otago; and at Orepuki, in South- "land, extensive and apparently valuable formations of shale have "been discovered." Attempts are being made to develop the oil resources at Waiapu; but the production of marketable petroleum cannot yet be classed among the industrial products of the Colony.

Industries.

Information relating to the various industries in the Colony is only obtained at the time of a census. Between December 1880 and December 1885 the increase in the number of industries amounted to 625, being at the rate of 38 per cent. for the period;

the increase in the number of hands employed amounted to 7,717, being at the rate of 43 per cent.

Value of manufactures, &c.

The following table shows the number of principal industries at the end of 1885, the number of hands employed, the estimated capital invested, and the value of the produce or manufactures in that year :—

Nature of Industry.	Number of each kind.	Number of Hands employed.	Estimated Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Plant.	Estimated Value of Produce and Manufactures in 1885.
			£	£
Printing establishments	135	2,197	331,723	273,886
For machines, tools, and implements	22	326	66,025	126,663
Coach-building and painting	89	664	128,346	106,238
Ship and boat-building	53	172	17,094	56,132
Furniture manufactories	75	707	93,032	162,375
Chemical works	6	56	30,109	34,283
Hematite paint manufactories	5	19	5,175	2,178
Woollen mills	6	867	263,279	194,311
Boot factories	42	1,654	70,935	276,725
Clothing factories	11	1,269	37,530	237,781
Hat and cap factories	8	118	14,790	13,695
Flax-mills	30	249	18,016	20,059
Rope and twine works	21	242	56,413	49,821
Sail factories	32	118	15,370	25,574
Cheese and butter factories	36	110	47,513	43,094
Grain-mills	121	448	329,304	754,830
Breweries	98	475	323,756	325,182
Boiling-down meat, freezing, and preserving works	44	838	442,962	543,878
Soap and candle works	18	204	75,928	130,475
Fellmongering, tanning, and wool-scouring	97	1,093	138,750	634,915
Saw-mills	268	5,042	964,095	1,177,713
Collieries	79	1,448	148,773	255,326
Brick, tile, and pottery works	126	598	151,411	91,797
Iron and brass foundries	58	1,748	239,938	351,379
Gold and quartz-mining works	101	1,156	211,021	374,837
Hydraulic gold-mining	124	617	224,787	74,190
Other industries	563	3,310	1,310,742	1,099,312
Totals	2,268	25,655	5,697,117	7,436,649

Vital Statistics.

Births.

The number of births registered in 1887 was 19,135, the smallest number in any one year since 1882. As the population

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is annually increasing, the diminution in the number of births means a rapid decrease in the proportion to the population. In 1882 the proportion was 37·32 per 1,000 of the population; in 1887, 32·09.

The following shows the number of births and the annual birth-rate for each of the past eight years:—

	Number of Births.	Births per 1,000 of the Mean Population.
1880	19,341	40·78
1881	18,372	37·95
1882	19,009	37·32
1883	19,202	36·28
1884	19,846	35·91
1885	19,693	34·35
1886	19,299	33·15
1887	19,135	32·09

Decline of birth-rate.

It appears strange that in so young a Colony as this, and with an increasing population, there should be a progressive decrease in the number of births; for there is good reason to believe that the very small number of births that remain unregistered would not appreciably affect the numbers given.

The following are among the causes for the diminution of the birth-rates:—

1. The increasing proportion of the population under 21 years of age. In 1878 51·94 per cent. of the population, in 1881 52·82 per cent., and in 1886 53·27 per cent., were under 21 years of age. It must, however, be observed that, while on an average 104 per 1,000 persons were between 15 and 20 years of age in 1881, 120 per 1,000 were at those ages in 1886.

2. The smaller proportion of wives under 45 years of age to the total population, and their higher average age.

The increasing higher average age of the wives under 45 years of age was referred to in the earlier part of this report.

In 1881 the wives under 45 years of age were in the proportion of 117·30 to every 1,000 of the population, but in 1886 the proportion was only 108·39.

Fertility of women.

3. The lessened fertility of the married women under 45; no doubt partially due to their higher average age. The extent of this cause in the decrease of the birth-rate may be somewhat

estimated from the following statement, which shows the proportion of births to population and to married women :—

Year of Census.	Married Women under 45 Years of Age.	Legitimate Births in 12 Months ending 30th September.	Proportion of Legitimate Births.	
			Per 1,000 of the Population.	Per 1,000 Married Women under 45 Years of Age.
1881 - - -	57,467	18,308	37·95	318·58
1886 - - -	62,704	19,018	33·15	303·30

The effect of this difference in the fertility of the wives may be illustrated thus: If the births had been in the same proportion to the number of wives in 1886 as in 1881, the number of legitimate births would have been 19,976 instead of 19,018, and, adding the illegitimate births, the proportion to the population would have been 35·35 per 1,000 in 1886 instead of 33·15 ; but, as even this supposititious rate is less by 2·60 per 1,000 than that in 1881, it is evident this lessened fertility is only one of the causes of the decrease, another being the decrease in the married rate referred to further on.

It has been necessary in the above remarks to deal with the numbers at the time of the census period, for only then is even approximately reliable information forthcoming as to the number and ages of married women.

New Zealand birth-rate compared with those of other places.

The birth-rate (32·09) in 1887 is lower than any on record for England and Wales during the past 35 years, and lower than any for Scotland since 1855; but it is much higher than the birth-rates for Ireland, which since 1863 have ranged between the extremes of 23·3 and 28·1.

The rates in New Zealand compare unfavourably with those in the Australian Colonies, except in Victoria, which has had generally lower birth-rates; but in all these Colonies the birth-rates in 1887 exceeded that in New Zealand.

The following were the birth-rates per 1,000 of the mean population of the several Australasian Colonies for the last five years:—

Colony.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Queensland - - - -	36·92	35·75	36·66	40·21	38·09
New South Wales - - -	37·49	38·53	37·64	37·03	36·42
Victoria - - - - -	30·02	30·49	30·74	31·23	32·39
South Australia - - -	37·37	38·38	37·30	35·32	34·63
Western Australia - - -	33·87	33·84	35·22	39·21	37·34
Tasmania - - -	34·25	35·66	35·08	34·15	33·87
New Zealand - - - -	36·28	35·91	34·35	33·15	32·09

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Numbers born in each sex.

The male births in 1887 numbered 9,725, and the female 9,410. The proportion was thus 103·35 males to 100 females. This was the smallest proportion of male to female births that has obtained since 1878, in which year the proportion of males was exceptionally low, viz., 101·57. The highest proportion in the period was in 1879—105·90 males to the 100 females. Taking the results for a series of years, it is found that among the Australian Colonies the largest proportion of male to female births has occurred in Queensland, and the next largest in New Zealand.

There are on an average of years more male to female births in all the Australasian Colonies than in England, but the proportions of male births are greater in many of the European States.

Twins.

There were 185 cases of twin births (370 children) in 1887, and, in addition, three cases of triplets. 188 mothers thus gave birth to 379 children in the year. The 19,135 children born represented 18,944 confinements; thus one mother in every 102 gave birth to twins, and one in every 6,314 gave birth to triplets.

Illegitimate births.

The children whose births were registered as illegitimate numbered 617, being in the proportion of one to every 30 legitimate births, or 3·23 to every 100 children born. This proportion is somewhat higher than that in 1886, and is confirmatory of the experience of previous years as to the continuous increase in the proportion of illegitimate to legitimate births.

The rates of illegitimacy are lower in New Zealand than in either of the Australasian Colonies, with the exception of South Australia.

The following shows the rates of illegitimacy in the Australasian Colonies:—

	Queensland.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1878 - - -	3·68	4·03	4·15	—	—	2·41
1879 - - -	4·31	4·51	4·86	—	—	2·30
1880 - - -	4·31	4·35	4·80	—	—	2·43
1881 - - -	4·20	4·35	5·09	2·25	—	2·85
1882 - - -	4·40	4·26	4·75	2·25	4·40	2·87
1883 - - -	3·66	4·24	4·69	1·75	3·96	2·78
1884 - - -	4·05	4·40	4·29	2·10	4·46	2·95
1885 - - -	4·08	4·60	4·36	2·42	4·55	3·20
1886 - - -	3·97	4·65	4·75	2·38	4·13	3·12
1887 - - -	—	4·59	4·78	2·49	3·40	3·23
Means -	4·07	4·40	4·65	2·81	4·15	2·81

In Western Australia the rates were 4·36 in 1886 and 4·11 in 1887 for every 100 births.

The rate of illegitimacy is higher in England than in either of the Australasian Colonies, the mean for the years 1881–85 having been 4·8 per 100 births.

Children to a marriage.

The average number of children born to each marriage may be ascertained by comparing the proportion of legitimate births for a series of years with the number of marriages during the same number of years, but commencing with the marriages for the year preceding that for which the first number of births is given; for, although in the earlier years births will be included that are the fruits of marriages solemnised prior to the commencement of the period, so equally will there be omitted the number of children born subsequently to the period whose parents married within that time. There are no records prior to 1872 of the number of illegitimate births, and the number given prior to 1876 cannot be accepted as complete, as women living in concubinage were frequently apt to pass themselves off, when registering the births of their children, as married women. "The Registration of Births "and Deaths Act, 1875," required that the date and place of marriage of the parents of the child whose birth was registered should be stated. As a result there was an immediate increase in the number of children stated to be illegitimate. The numbers of legitimate births can therefore only be stated with any degree of accuracy since 1875, and consequently these numbers only have been used for the purpose of the computation :—

Children to a Marriage.

Year.	Legitimate Births.	Marriages.	Proportion of Births to every Marriage solemnised in the *preceding* Year.
1875 - - -	—	3,209	—
1876 - - -	16,807	3,196	5·24
1877 - - -	16,505	3,114	5·16
1878 - - -	17,341	3,377	5·57
1879 - - -	17,655	3,352	5·23
1880 - - -	18,870	3,182	5·63
1881 - - -	18,198	3,279	5·72
1882 - - -	18,463	3,600	5·63
1883 - - -	18,668	3,614	5·19
1884 - - -	19,259	3,802	5·33
1885 - - -	19,063	3,815	5·01
1886 - - -	18,697	3,489	1·90
1887 - - -	18,518	—	5·31
Sums and Proportion	218,044	41,029	5·31

The average number of children to a marriage (5·31) appears to be greater in New Zealand than in either of the Australasian

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Colonies. The number given in the Victorian Year Book for each of the Colonies named is as follows:—

——	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	Tasmania (1882–85).
Mean of numbers for six years 1880–85 -	4·40	4·73	4·68	4·31

The average numbers to a marriage in the United Kingdom are as follows:—

In England and Wales - - -	4·16
In Scotland - - - -	4·43
In Ireland - - - - -	5·46

A greater number of births occurred in the September quarter of 1887 than in either of the other quarters of the year, the next greatest number having been in the December quarter. This was in accordance with the experience of former years.

Marriages.

The marriages in 1887 numbered 3,565, being an increase of 76 on the number in 1886; but on account of the increase in the population the proportion to the 1,000 of population fell from 5·99 to 5·97.

The present marriage-rate in New Zealand is the lowest of any in the Australasian Colonies, although the mean rate for 10 years is higher than that for Victoria. This is shown in the following table of the number of marriages per 1,000 of the mean population in the Australasian Colonies:—

Year.	Queensland.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1878 - - -	6·98	8·08	6·20	9·47	6·50	7·98	7·97
1879 - - -	7·49	7·80	5·98	8·77	7·57	7·23	7·48
1880 - - -	6·97	7·67	6·22	8·66	7·42	7·39	6·71
1881 - - -	7·70	8·26	6·79	8·00	6·60	7·39	6·64
1882 - - -	8·56	8·74	7·09	8·55	7·07	8·03	7·07
1883 - - -	8·93	8·87	7·43	8·33	6·95	9·01	6·82
1884 - - -	8·91	8·49	7·73	8·13	7·11	7·81	6·87
1885 - - -	8·93	8·18	7·72	7·66	7·51	7·97	6·65
1886 - - -	8·67	7·99	7·84	6·24	7·98	7·26	5·99
1887 - - -	8·21	7·42	7·62	6·31	7·58	6·71	5·97

Decline of marriage-rate.

The diminishing rates in New Zealand synchronise with diminishing numbers per 1,000 of the unmarried and widowed males over 20, and females over 15 years of age, who marry. If the marriage-rates be calculated on the number of persons living, exclusive of the Chinese, who form an exceptional element in the population, and, of course, exclusive of Maoris also, a diminution

will be found both in these rates and in the proportion of marriages to every 1,000 unmarried persons. It will be observed that in consequence of the exclusion of the Chinese the marriage-rates are higher than are elsewhere given.

Census year.	No. of Marriages.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of the		
		Population.	Unmarried Males over 20 and all Widowers.	Unmarried Females over 15 and all Widows.
1874 -	2,828	8·95	60·01	126·37
1878 -	3,377	8·06	58·31	100·08
1881 -	3,277	6·71	50·35	73·77
1886 - -	3,488	6·04	45·52	54·98

The marriage-rate in the Colony was less in 1887 than in England and Wales in 1886 (7·05), and in Scotland (6·2), but it was greatly in excess of the rate in Ireland (4·2). The marriage-rates in all the European States are higher than the rate in New Zealand.

Marriages in this Colony are generally most numerous in the autumn quarter ending the 30th June, next in the summer quarter ending the 31st March, next in the spring quarter ending the 31st December, and least numerous in the winter quarter ending the 30th September; but, while the proportions per 100 marriages fluctuate irregularly from year to year between the winter and spring quarters, there appears to be a steady order in the proportions in the summer and autumn quarters. Thus, in each of the five years 1874 to 1880 the marriages were most numerous in the March quarter, the next largest number having been in the June quarter; but in each of the six years 1881 to 1887 the largest number occurred in the June quarter, and in five of these years the next largest occurred in the March quarter.

The following table shows the number of marriages in each quarter:—

Quarter ended on the last Day of	Year 1887.		Years 1873–87 inclusive. Per-centage.
	Number of Marriages.	Per-centage.	
March - - -	835	23·43	25·82
June - - -	1,036	29·08	26·55
September - -	811	22·76	23·43
December - -	881	24·73	24·20

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Of the marriages which occurred in 1887, 3,095, or 86·87 per cent., were between bachelors, including divorced males and spinsters; 163, or 4·57 per cent., between bachelors, including divorced males and widows; 218, or 6·12 per cent., between widowers and spinsters and divorced females; and 87, or 2·44 per cent., between widowers and widows.

The number of marriages given does not include those between persons both of whom are of the aboriginal native race, these people being expressly excluded from the operation of the Marriage Act, although they are at liberty to take advantage thereof; but only 13 marriages between persons both of whom were of the Maori race were contracted in 1887 according to the provisions of the Act.

Forms of marriage.

Of the total number of marriages in the past year, 770, or 21·60 per cent., were solemnised by ministers of the Church of England; 873, or 24·49 per cent., by ministers of the Presbyterian Churches; 525, or 14·73 per cent., by ministers of the Wesleyan and other Methodist Churches; 421, or 11·81 per cent., by ministers of the Roman Catholic Church; 148, or 4·15 per cent., by ministers of other denominations; and 828, or 23·22 per cent., by registrars.

The following shows the proportions of marriages in the principal denominations in the three years 1885–87, and the proportions of the persons of these denominations to the total population :—

Denomination.	Per-centage of Marriages.			Per-centage of Denomination to Total Population in 1886.
	1885.	1886.	1887.	
Church of England - -	21·97	21·50	21·60	40·17
Presbyterians - - -	23·64	26·34	24·49	22·59
Wesleyan and other Methodists	13·79	13·58	14·73	9·55
Roman Catholics - -	12·87	10·49	11·81	13·95
Other denominations - -	4·32	4·99	4·15	—
By Registrars - - -	23·41	23·10	23·22	—

It seems apparent that all marriages between members of the Presbyterian and Wesleyan denominations are solemnised by ministers of those bodies; that the majority of the marriages before registrars are those of persons who are nominally members of the Church of England; also that, as all marriages between Roman Catholics are solemnised by their own clergy, there were fewer marriages in proportion to population among members of that denomination than among members of other bodies.

Signatures by mark.

The number of signatures in the marriage registers by mark, taken as a test of the measure of elementary education among the people, has been greatly diminished in value since the introduction of the system of State education. As at the census of 1886 over 98 per cent. of the young persons between 15 and 20 years of age were able to read and write clearly, the signatures by marks should soon be almost—if not quite—confined to those of some of older members of the community. 69 males and 111 females signed by marks in 1887; the similar numbers in 1886 having been 67 males and 101 females. The proportion who signed by marks was greatest among members of the Roman Catholic Church; the next highest proportion was among those married before registrars.

The following are the proportions per 100 marriages in each denomination of those who signed by marks in each of the years 1885–1887:—

	1885.		1886.		1887.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Marriages according to the rites of the—						
Church of England	1·43	1·55	0·93	1·20	0·65	1·44
Presbyterians	1·33	1·77	0·98	0·76	1·60	2·52
Wesleyan Methodists	1·90	1·90	0·63	1·48	1·33	1·52
Roman Catholics	6·11	8·35	4·64	6·56	2·38	5·46
Other denominations	3·84	1·92	1·15	2·30	1·35	0·00
Marriages by Registrars	4·48	7·16	3·60	6·20	3·74	5·68

When comparing these proportions it must not be overlooked that the majority of the marriages by registrars must be, as has been previously stated, of nominal members of the Church of England.

Ages of persons married.

Of the persons married in 1887, 68 males and 908 females were under 21 years of age; of these females, 1 was under 15 years of age, 4 were between 15 and 16, and 35 between 16 and 17. The following are the proportions of men and women married at each age-period to every 100 marriages during the years 1885–87:—

	1885.		1886.		1887.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Under 21 years	1·97	26·49	1·95	26·09	1·91	25·49
21 and under 25	27·30	43·33	26·81	42·95	27·95	42·41
25 and under 30	35·54	17·44	34·72	17·95	35·28	19·70
30 and under 40	23·86	8·73	25·57	8·95	24·64	8·84
40 and under 50	8·16	3·17	7·51	3·18	7·05	2·86
50 and under 60	2·44	0·76	2·84	0·77	2·50	0·53
60 and under 70	0·62	0·05	0·43	0·08	0·53	0·17
70 and upwards	0·10	—	0·17	0·03	0·14	—
Age not specified	—	(one)	—	—	—	—

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The average age of the men who married was 29 years and nearly 5 months in 1886, and 29 years and 1 month in 1887. The average age of the women who married was 24 years in each year.

Deaths.

The deaths in 1887 numbered 6,137, being equivalent to a rate of 10·29 per 1,000 persons living. This is the lowest rate on record, with the exception of that in 1874 (10·13).

Death-rates of different places.

The extremely low death-rate in New Zealand, compared with the rates that obtain elsewhere, is manifest from the following death-rates per 1,000 of the mean population of the countries mentioned:—

——	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
New Zealand - - -	10·96	12·46	11·46	11·13	11·19	11·45	10·39	10·76	10·54	10·29
Queensland - - -	20·41	14·97	13·59	15·02	17·99	18·82	22·97	19·58	17·29	14·56
New South Wales - -	16·36	14·76	15·47	15·17	16·12	14·68	16·14	16·41	14·89	13·15
Victoria - - - -	15·46	14·53	13·70	14·16	16·23	14·28	14·46	14·98	15·15	15·70
South Australia - -	15·44	14·04	14·79	13·90	14·84	14·55	15·24	12·48	13·38	12·77
Western Australia - -	14·07	14·46	13·24	13·80	14·16	17·93	21·87	17·61	21·56	16·83
Tasmania - - -	15·66	15·18	16·12	14·77	15·79	17·06	15·50	15·40	14·58	15·45
England and Wales - -	21·6	20·7	20·5	18·9	19·6	19·5	19·6	19·0	19·3	—
Scotland - - -	21·2	20·0	20·5	19·3	19·3	20·1	19·4	19·1	18·6	—
Ireland - - - -	18·6	19·6	19·8	17·5	17·4	19·2	17·6	18·4	17·9	—
Denmark - - -	18·5	19·8	20·4	18·3	19·3	18·4	18·4	17·9	18·2	—
Norway - - -	15·8	15·0	15·9	16·8	18·4	17·1	16·4	16·4	16·1	—
Sweden - - - -	18·1	16·9	18·1	17·7	17·4	17·3	17·5	17·8	—	—
Austria - - - -	31·6	29·9	29·7	30·6	30·8	30·1	29·2	29·9	29·2	—
Hungary - - -	37·6	36·4	38·6	35·6	36·6	32·6	31·4	—	—	—
Switzerland - - -	23·3	22·6	21·9	22·4	21·9	20·3	20·1	21·1	20·4	—
German Empire - -	26·2	25·6	26·0	25·5	25·8	25·9	24·0	25·7	26·2	—
The Netherlands - -	23·0	22·5	23·5	21·5	20·7	21·8	22·2	21·0	21·8	—
France - - - -	22·6	22·5	22·8	22·0	22·2	22·2	22·2	22·0	22·5	—
Italy - - - -	28·9	29·9	30·5	27·6	27·5	27·5	26·7	26·6	28·3	—

Death-rates affected by proportions living at age-periods.

It might be inferred from the above figures that the mortality per 1,000 of population being so low in New Zealand the duration of life would be greater here than elsewhere, even to more than double the length of that in some of the countries specified; but a mere comparison of the bare rates would lead to very fallacious results, as a death-rate calculated on the whole population—that is, the proportion of all the deaths to every 1,000 of the whole population living in the middle of the year, although a very fair index of the sanitary condition of the population of the same country if compared from year to year, and also useful for comparing the healthiness of different countries whose respective

populations contain a fairly equal proportionate number of persons living at each age-period of life--cannot be regarded as a fair index of the comparative healthiness of new and old countries, nor even of that of new countries one with another when the relative proportions living at the several age-periods vary considerably. The greater or less proportions of persons in the prime of life, and of aged as well as of very young people, have very important effects on the death-rates; the mortality per 1,000 living being very much greater among children under 5 years of age and old people of 60 years and over than among those in the much longer age-period above 5 and under 60 years.

Absolute death-rate.

Attempts have been made to devise death-rates that might be deemed more useful than the ordinary rate per 1,000 of the whole population for comparative purposes. Mr. Hayter, the Victorian Statist, proposed what he designated the "Absolute Death-rate," being a mean of the several rates per 1,000 living at each quinquennial period of life up to 25 years of age, and per 2,000 living at each decennial period from 25 to 75. In this the rate per 2,000 living at each decennial period is treated as if it were equal to the sum of the two rates per 1,000 at each quinquennium of the period; also the high death-rates among a comparatively small number of the older people are distributed equally among the much smaller death-rates for the bulk of the population. This mode of computation is not one that would produce reliable results. Mr. Johnston, the Statist of Tasmania, proposed the adoption of a single rate on all living up to the rate of 60 years. This proposal was for the purpose of eliminating the disturbances caused in the death-rates by the different proportions of old people in the several Colonies; but, as it assumed that the proportions per 1,000 of population at each age-period were the same in all the Colonies and in older countries, this rate, designated the "Actual Health Standard," although better than the "Absolute Death-rate," was still not all that could be desired. Considering the diversities in the proportions living at each age-period in the Colonies and other countries, the truest comparisons are those between the several rates per 1,000 living at each quinquennial period of age. In recognition of this fact, Mr. Hayter has proposed a new method of calculating one single death-rate. He thus describes his process:—*

Actual health standard.

Adjusted death-rate.

"To construct a standard of comparison probably less open to
"objection than any other, it appears necessary arbitrarily to
"adopt the relative proportions in regard to age existing in a
"model population, and upon the basis of the deaths which actually
"occurred at various age-periods to discover what number would
"have occurred if the proportions living at the same periods in
"the actual had corresponded with those in the model population.
"It is essential that the model population thus used should be in

* Victorian Year Book, 1886–87, p. 286, par. 594.

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The mode of procedure is then illustrated. The number living in every 10,000 persons in England and Wales in 1881 at the several quinquennial age-periods to 25 and decennial age-periods 25 to 75, designated " the model population," having been ascertained, the actual death-rate per 1,000 persons living at each of those age-periods is used as a basis to find what the number of deaths would be for the numbers given at each age-period in the model population. The result represents the total number of deaths on the total of the so-called model population.

The mode adopted appears to be one founded on a right principle, and the results are such as would enable a fairly correct comparison to be made with the results of any other country similarly arrived at. If the rates at all ages, instead of stopping at 75 years, be taken, then the ordinary death-rates of European countries may be used without any special computations being made.

With respect to the omission of ages after 75, it was remarked: " The age of 75 is the highest taken into computation, as in most " countries the deaths and population are generally tabulated in " quinquennial or decennial periods up to but not beyond that " age; and, moreover, the higher ages may be safely left out of " account, since, although the death-rate at such ages is high, the " number living over 75 in a normal population usually amounts " to only 1 per cent."

The result of only computing the rates on deaths under 75 years of age is that the death-rates so arrived at cannot be compared with the death-rates of those countries in respect of which no information is readily available as to the proportions of the population living at the several age-periods, and, consequently, as to the death-rates at ages. The disturbance of the comparisons caused by including the deaths of persons over 75 years of age is not so serious as might be supposed. Thus the general death-rate in England was 19·28 per 1,000 living in 1886; but the rate on ages up to 75 only was 17·17, a difference of 2·11 per 1,000. The New Zealand adjusted death-rate at all ages for 1886 was 12·82 per 1,000; but on ages up to 75 it was 11·24, a difference of 1·58 per 1,000, being only ·53 less than the similar difference in the English rate.

The difference being so small, it has appeared desirable to compute the adjusted death-rates on all ages, as then the published rates for European countries, in which, as populations are of a normal character, the proportions living at each period will probably approximate closely to those that obtain in England, can be compared with the colonial adjusted death-rates.

The following table illustrates the method adopted :—

Ages.	Model Population, being Actual Proportions per 10,000 Persons in England and Wales at the Census of 1881.	New Zealand Death-rates experienced 1886.	Deaths in Model Population according to rates in previous Column.
Under 5 years - -	1,356	28·52	38·673
5 and under 10 years - -	1,212	3·06	3·709
10 and under 15 years -	1,078	2·46	2·652
15 and under 20 years -	981	3·45	3·384
20 and under 25 years -	896	5·11	4·579
25 and under 35 years -	1,460	6·07	8·862
35 and under 45 years -	1,132	7·87	8·909
45 and under 55 years -	837	11·87	9·935
55 and under 65 years -	591	27·77	16·412
65 and under 75 years -	328	46·47	15·242
75 and upwards - -	129	123·16	15·888
Total - -	10,000	—	128·245

This amounted to a rate at all ages of 12·82 per 1,000 of the New Zealand population, if grouped in the proportions at each age-period according to the numbers in the model population; but if the rate be limited to ages under 75 years it would be 11·24 per 1,000.

The following table gives the death-rates for 1886 in the Australian Colonies mentioned, adjusted according to the above method, and also the ordinary death-rate for England and Wales, which is the same as the adjusted rate :—

——	New Zealand.	Victoria.	Queensland.	New South Wales (1885).	South Australia.	Tasmania.	England.
Ordinary - - -	10·54	15·15	17·29	16·41	13·38	15·40	19·28
Adjusted for all ages -	12·82	17·00	19·00	18·36	19·17	12·33	
Adjusted rate up to 75 years only - - - -	11·24	15·04	17·22	16·15	17·17	10·22	17·17

The difference between the adjusted rates for deaths at ages up to 75 years and for deaths at all ages varies from 1·58 in New

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Zealand to 2·21 in New South Wales. The differences between these variations are not so great but that the adjusted rate for all ages may be well used, having regard to the comparisons that can be made between these rates and the ordinary rates in old settled countries.

It is also noticeable that although New Zealand has an ordinary death-rate per 1,000 of population much smaller than that in Tasmania, yet the adjusted rate for Tasmania shows a real mortality less than that in New Zealand, the higher rate in Tasmania being due to the larger proportion of aged persons in that Colony. The lower rates of mortality, as shown by the adjusted rates in New Zealand and Tasmania, are due to a much smaller rate of infantile mortality in those Colonies.

Ordinary death-rates for New Zealand, Australia, and England.

The following were the death-rates per 1,000 living for New Zealand, the Australian Colonies named and England, respectively, at successive age-periods, for the years stated :—

Age.	New Zealand.		Queensland.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Tasmania.	England.
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1885.	1886.	1886.	1886.	1886.
Under 5 - - -	28·52	26·66	49·44	47·86	44·51	40·09	33·50	55·58
5 and under 10 - -	3·06	2·82	3·20	4·18	3·88	3·34	3·06	4·65
10 and under 15 - -	2·46	2·13	2·22	2·51	2·47	1·74	1·50	2·96
15 and under 20 - -	3·45	3·71	8·50	3·91	3·52	3·45	4·09	4·38
20 and under 25 - -	5·11	5·59	12·56	6·54	5·75	4·53	6·45	5·51
25 and under 35 - -	6·07	5·84	11·74	9·52	8·37	7·60	8·12	7·41
35 and under 45 - -	7·87	8·17	13·52	11·21	11·52	9·64	7·39	11·15
45 and under 55 - -	11·87	11·27	16·17	17·16	17·18	13·02	11·24	17·06
55 and under 65 - -	22·77	24·49	30·97	29·35	28·17	26·28	20·37	30·81
65 and under 75 - -	46·47	47·56	50·03	63·58	55·04	56·34	64·36	68·15
75 and upwards - -	123·16	108·80	133·57	172·06	152·18	155·25	160·76	163·59

For the purpose of calculating the several rates given, the population of each Colony has been assumed to have the same proportionate number at each age to the total population that obtained at the previous census.

The contrast between the proportions of deaths of children under 5 years of age in New Zealand and the other Australian Colonies and England is very great. This smaller death-rate of children is one of the principal causes of the lower general death-rate.

At 5 to 10 years of age the mortality was lowest in New Zealand and highest in England, New South Wales having the next highest rate. At 10 to 15 the lowest rates of mortality were in Tasmania and South Australia. At 15 to 25, with the exception of the high rates in Queensland, the disparity in the rates is not very marked. At 25 to 35 the mortality was greater in all the Australian Colonies than in New Zealand. At 35 to 55 the

rates in New Zealand and Tasmania approximated, while in the other Colonies and England they were much higher. At 55 to 65 the Tasmanian rate was lowest. The rates at the age-period 75 and upwards are not fairly comparable apart from the proportions living at each year of age above 75, as those countries having the largest proportionate numbers at very advanced ages of life have in consequence a higher death-rate for the period above 75 years. NEW ZEALAND.

Of the 6,137 persons who died in 1887, 3,603 were males and 2,534 females, respectively equivalent to 11·22 per 1,000 of the male and 9·21 per 1,000 of the female population living; the mortality among the males having been thus 2 per 1,000 greater than that among the females. Sexes of deceased persons.

The mortality in 1887 among the males was greater at every age-period of life, except at the periods 15 to 20 and 25 to 35 years, when the female mortality was greater.

The following table gives the mortality per 1,000 of each sex living, according to age, for the two years 1886 and 1887:— Death-rate of sexes per 1,000 living.

Age-periods.	Males.		Females.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
Under 1 year - - -	110·12	103·49	95·13	86·08
1 and under 5 years - -	8·59	8·99	8·59	8·31
5 and under 10 years - -	3·34	3·18	2·78	2·50
10 and under 15 years - -	2·25	2·36	2·71	1·92
15 and under 20 years - -	3·80	3·14	3·13	3·67
20 and under 25 years - -	5·20	6·31	5·01	4·88
25 and under 35 years - -	5·74	5·55	6·36	6·09
35 and under 45 years - -	8·06	8·37	7·45	7·54
45 and under 55 years - -	12·76	12·05	9·48	9·72
55 and under 65 years - -	25·65	26·75	17·86	20·98
65 and under 75 years - -	46·69	54·29	47·12	39·22
75 and upwards - - -	134·59	124·56	113·80	91·73

One hundred and seventy-six of the males and 101 of the females who died in 1887 were over 75 years of age; of these, seven males (of whom one reached the age of 98) and two females were over 90 years of age.

The aggregate of the ages of all the males who died was 103,570 years, and of all the females 59,220 years, giving an average age at death of 28·78 years for males and 23·37 years for females.

While experience shows that there is a natural law, the causes of which seem inexplicable, that the number of male children born should annually exceed the number of female children born, the extremes in New Zealand having ranged from 101·57 to 106·74 male children to every 100 female children born, experience also indicates the existence of another law, involving a higher mortality among male than among female infants. In 1887 the number of male births was 9,725, the number of deaths of male infants under 1 year of age was 987, being at the rate of 101·49 deaths per 1,000 male births. The number of females born was 9,410, and the Deaths of male and female children.

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Year.	Sex.	Under 1 Month.	1 and under 3 Months.	3 and under 6 Months.	6 and under 12 Months.	Total under 12 Months.
1887 - - -	Male - -	33·21	19·33	22·73	26·22	101·49
	Female - -	22·96	16·69	18·70	27·52	85·87
7 years, 1881–87 inclusive - -	Male - -	34·40	20·04	22·09	27·77	104·30
	Female - -	27·14	17·19	18·62	25·35	88·30

The probability of living during the first year of age is thus much greater in favour of female than of male infants. The experience of the past seven years gives, among equal numbers born,—

100 deaths of males to 78·9 deaths of females under 1 month of age.
100 deaths of males to 85·8 deaths of females from 1 to 3 months of age.
100 deaths of males to 84·3 deaths of females from 3 to 6 months of age.
100 deaths of males to 91·2 deaths of females from 6 to 12 months of age.
100 deaths of males to 84·7 deaths of females under 12 months of age.

Causes of death.

The following statement gives the classification of diseases, with the per-centage of death to the total mortality, and the proportion to the 1,000 of the population in each class and order, in 1885, 1886, and 1887 :—

	Per 100 Deaths.			Per 10,000 of Population.		
	1885.	1886.	1887.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Class I.—Specific Febrile or Zymotic Diseases—						
Order 1. Miasmatic diseases -	5·66	6·78	7·51	6·04	7·15	7·73
„ 2. Diarrhœal diseases -	6·56	7·42	7·74	7·00	7·82	7·96
„ 3. Malarial diseases - -	0·06	0·08	0·08	0·07	0·08	0·08
„ 4. Zoogenous diseases -	0·02	0·00	0·00	0·02	0·00	0·00
„ 5. Venereal diseases - -	0·26	0·18	0·36	0·28	0·19	0·37
„ 6. Septic diseases - -	1·84	1·19	0·93	1·96	1·25	0·96
Total Class I. - -	14·40	15·65	16·62	15·37	16·49	17·10
Class II.—Parasitic Diseases -	0·43	0·60	0·52	0·46	0·64	0·54

	Per 100 Deaths.			Per 10,000 of Population.		
	1885.	1886.	1887.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Class III.—Dietetic Diseases - -	1·22	1·42	0·83	1·32	1·49	0·86
Class IV.—Constitutional Diseases -	16·05	16·33	17·08	17·13	17·21	17·57
Class V.—Developmental Diseases -	7·50	7·06	6·76	8·00	7·44	6·96
Class VI.—Local Diseases—						
Order 1. Diseases of nervous system	11·26	10·69	11·03	12·02	11·27	11·35
„ 2. Diseases of organs of special sense - -	0·15	0·10	0·12	0·16	0·10	0·12
„ 3. Diseases of circulatory system - - -	6·73	6·63	6·67	7·18	6·99	6·86
„ 4. Diseases of respiratory system - - -	12·92	12·86	12·27	13·80	13·56	12·63
„ 5. Diseases of digestive system - - -	9·92	9·34	9·22	10·58	9·84	9·49
„ 6. Diseases of lymphatic system and ductless glands	0·08	0·18	0·16	0·09	0·19	0·17
„ 7. Diseases of urinary system	2.19	1·81	2·20	2·34	1·91	2·26
„ 8. Diseases of reproductive system—						
(*a*) Of organs of generation - -	0·23	0·33	0·28	0·25	0·34	0·28
(*b*) Of parturition -	1·58	1·27	1·15	1·68	1·34	1·19
„ 9. Diseases of organs of locomotion - -	0·51	0·26	0·36	0·54	0·28	0·37
„ 10. Diseases of integumentary system - - -	0·38	0·29	0·29	0·40	0·31	0·30
Total Class VI. -	45·95	43·76	43·75	49·04	46·13	45·02
Class VII.—Violence—						
Order 1. Accident or negligence -	7·46	8·15	8·11	7·97	8·59	8·35
„ 2. Homicide - - -	0·15	0·08	0·05	0·16	0·09	0·05
„ 3. Suicide - - -	0·89	1·08	0·85	0·95	1·13	0·87
„ 4. Execution - - -	—	—	0·03	—	—	0·03
Total Class VII. -	8·50	9·31	9·04	9·08	9·81	9·30
Class VIII.—Ill-defined and Not-specified causes -	5·95	5·87	5·40	6·33	6·18	5·55

Specific febrile or zymotic diseases.

The deaths in 1887 from specific febrile or zymotic diseases amounted to 1,020, equal to a rate of 171 per 100,000 persons living. This is a much lower rate of mortality from these causes than obtains in England or the other of the Australasian Colonies. In England the deaths from these causes were in the proportion of 265 per 100,000 persons living; in Victoria in 1886 the proportion was 261; in Queensland, 393; in South Australia in 1887 it was 215: and in Tasmania, 250.

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The following are the diseases in this class which cause the greatest mortality, and the number of deaths from each disease, in New Zealand, in each of the past five years:—

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Measles	15	31	1	49	28
Scarlet fever and scarlatina	26	17	12	7	18
Diphtheria	85	112	104	78	92
Whooping-cough	246	167	91	132	138
Diarrhœal diseases	509	208	399	455	475
Puerperal fever	9	20	48	33	24
Enteric or typhoid fever	167	104	118	123	158

There has during the year been continued immunity from small-pox. This disease was brought to Australia, and caused the death of 11 persons during the year in Tasmania; but the prompt measures adopted to isolate those who were infected were successful in preventing the spread thereof; while strict quarantine was enforced in New Zealand on all arrivals from infected ports in the neighbouring Colonies.

The measure of protection afforded by vaccination during the year to the young portion of the colonial population is shown by the following statement:—

Vaccination.

The number of births registered in 1887 was 19,135. The number of children under 12 months of age successfully vaccinated was 10,293, or at the rate of 53·79 per cent. of the births; but, as the deaths of infants under 12 years of age numbered 1,795, it may be said that 59·36, or about 60 per cent., of the children born that survived to 12 months were vaccinated; in addition, during the year 2,626 children between the ages of 1 and 14 years were successfully vaccinated, and it may therefore be assumed that a small number of the infants remaining unvaccinated will yet undergo the operation. The vaccinations were rather less numerous than in the previous year, 1886, when 10,837 children under one year of age, and 2,424 children from 1 to 14 years old, were successfully operated upon.

The mortality in 1887 from diarrhœal diseases was proportionately greatest in the Hawke's Bay District, having been at the rate of 20 per 10,000 persons living. It was next greatest in Auckland, viz., 11 per 10,000 persons. In Canterbury the rate was nearly 9 (8·9), in Marlborough and Wellington over 8, and in Otago 4, per 10,000 persons.

This mortality was chiefly among children. Of the 475 deaths, 429 were of children under five years of age; of these, 369 were under 12 months old. Thus, only 46 of these deaths were of persons over 5 years of age.

Deaths from diarrhœal diseases.

Attention was directed in last year's report to the increase in the number of deaths from diarrhœal diseases on that in the preceding year having been synchronous with an increase in the average mean maximum temperature during the three summer months. The number of deaths from these diseases was somewhat greater in 1887 (475) than in 1886, 455; and again it has to be observed that the increase is synchronous with an increase on the average mean maximum summer temperature in the shade.

The following table shows the mean maximum temperature for the years 1886 and 1887:—

	1886.				1887.			
	Jan.	Feb.	March.	Means.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	Means.
Auckland - -	75·3	76·0	72·0	74·43	78·0	77·3	74·3	76·53
Wellington - -	70·2	70·4	68·5	69·70	75·4	71·1	69·0	71·83
Lincoln - - -	70·6	74·4	66·3	70·43	76·4	73·0	73·5	74·30
Average of means -	—	—	—	71·52	—	—	—	74·22

The average mean maximum temperature in the shade was thus about 2½ degrees higher in the summer of 1887 than of 1886.

Measles.

Measles caused only 28 deaths in 1887, against 49 in 1886. Of these deaths in 1887, only one occurred in the Canterbury District, where 32 occurred in the previous year; seven of the deaths occurred in the Nelson District, and the same number in Westland.

Diphtheria.

There was an increase in the number of deaths from diphtheria from 78 in 1886 to 92 in 1887; 26 deaths occurred from this cause in the Wellington District in 1886, but only 8 in 1887. The greatest mortality in 1887 occurred in Canterbury, 50 deaths.

The rates of mortality, per 10,000 persons living, from this disease were, in the under-mentioned provincial districts, as follows:—

Canterbury - - - - -	4·0
Marlborough - - - -	3·5
Nelson - - - - -	2·6
Wellington - - - - -	1·0
Auckland - - - - -	0·7
Otago - - - - -	0·5

Typhoid fever.

Typhoid fever caused a much greater mortality in 1887 than in 1886, the number of deaths having been 158 and 123 in the respective years. The largest number of these deaths (54) occurred in the Auckland District, and the next largest number (37) in Canterbury; but in proportion to the population the greatest number occurred in Hawke's Bay.

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The following shows the number of deaths from typhoid fever per 10,000 persons living :—

Hawke's Bay District - - -	5·1
Auckland District - - - -	4·0
Wellington District - - - -	3·6
Canterbury District - - - -	2·9
Marlborough District - - -	2·6
Otago District - - - -	1·2

Only one death from this cause occurred inthe Taranaki District, and two in the Nelson District—not one in Westland.

Of the 29 deaths from typhoid fever which occurred in the Wellington District, 21 took place in the Borough of Wellington; the next largest number in any of the boroughs was 7, in the Borough of Auckland.

The deaths from enteric or typhoid fever constitute, it is considered, one of the best single tests of a sanitary condition. These deaths are, proportionately to the population, higher in the Australasian Colonies than in England; but, of these Colonies, New Zealand furnishes the lowest rate.

The following shows the number of deaths from enteric fever per 10,000 persons living :—

England, 1886 - - - -	1·82
New Zealand, 1887 - - -	2·65
Queensland, 1886 - - - -	9·14
Victoria, 1886 - - - -	5·30
New South Wales, 1886 - - -	6·03
South Australia, 1887 - - -	4·63
Tasmania, 1887 - - - -	8·01

In Victoria, and probably also in Tasmania, "simple continued and ill-defined fevers" are included in the figures on which these proportions are based.

It must be observed that the number of the deaths in Tasmania in 1887 from this cause was exceptionally great. The rate for that Colony for the years 1873–85 inclusive was 3·49.

Alcoholism.

The deaths in this class include those of 14 males and 9 females, directly attributed to alcoholism. The actual number of deaths caused by the abuse of intoxicating drinks cannot be ascertained, as many deaths which are classified under the special disease given given as the immediate cause of death may be primarily attributed to habits of intemperance.

Phthisis.

The most fatal disease in this class is phthisis. It caused 534 deaths in 1887. Of those who died, 315 were males and 219 females. The mortality was at the rate of 8·95 per 10,000 persons living, and the number of these deaths comprised 8·70 out of every 100 deaths; thus, nearly one in every 11 deaths was from phthisis (1 in 11·5). The death-rate from phthisis is less than in either of the Australasian Colonies, except Western Australia, and

is only about half the rate that obtains in England. The following were the several rates in the years named:—

	Year.	Proportion per 100 Deaths.	Proportion per 10,000 Persons living.
New Zealand - - - -	1887	8·70	8·95
England - - - -	1886	8·91	17·18
Queensland - - - -	1886	8·86	14·86
New South Wales - - -	1886	7·21	10·73
Victoria - - - -	1886	9·20	13·93
South Australia - - -	1887	8·95	11·43
Western Australia - - -	1886	2·98	6·42
Tasmania - -	1887	7·12	11·01

These death-rates in all the Colonies have been materially increased by the deaths of persons who have arrived in a diseased condition or with a strong predisposition to that disease. The exceptionally high rate in Queensland is largely attributable to the mortality among the South Sea Island labourers from this cause.

The following table gives the ages, with the length of residence, of those who died from phthisis in 1887:—

Length of Residence in the Colony.	Age at Death.										
	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 and upwards.	Total.
Males.											
Under 1 month - -	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
1 to 6 months - -	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	8
6 to 12 months - -	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	7
1 to 2 years - - -	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	6
2 to 3 years - - -	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	6
3 to 4 years - - -	—	—	—	2	6	—	1	—	—	—	9
4 to 5 years - - -	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	5
5 to 10 years - - -	—	—	—	1	24	9	3	1	—	—	38
10 to 15 years - -	—	—	—	7	17	8	9	5	1	—	47
15 to 20 years - -	—	—	—	4	5	2	5	—	—	—	16
20 to 25 years - -	—	—	—	—	7	12	15	4	2	—	40
25 years and upwards -	—	—	—	—	3	7	13	10	4	—	37
Not known - - -	—	—	—	3	2	9	5	3	—	1	23
Born in Colony - -	8	1	2	40	11	6	1	—	—	—	69
Totals - - -	8	1	2	71	94	55	53	23	7	1	315

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Length of Residence in the Colony.	Age at Death.										
	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 and upwards.	Total.
Females.											
1 to 6 months - -	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
6 to 12 months - -	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
1 to 2 years - - -	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
2 to 3 years - - -	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
3 to 4 years - - -	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	5
4 to 5 years - - -	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
5 to 10 years - - -	—	—	—	4	9	3	4	—	—	—	20
10 to 15 years - -	—	—	—	12	14	14	3	1	1	—	45
15 to 20 years - -	—	—	—	2	4	3	1	—	—	—	10
20 to 25 years - -	—	—	—	—	10	7	5	—	—	—	22
25 years and upwards -	—	—	—	—	6	2	3	4	—	—	15
Not known - - -	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	4
Born in Colony - -	4	5	6	44	21	7	—	—	—	—	87
Totals - - -	4	5	6	66	74	40	18	5	1	—	219
Totals both sexes -	12	6	8	137	168	95	71	28	8	1	534

Of the above deaths, 156, or 29 per cent., were of persons stated to have been born in the Colony, and 40, or 7·6 per cent., were of persons who had not resided three years therein, and may probably, therefore, be considered to have arrived in a diseased condition. Of the 27 whose length of residence was not stated, some may have been only a short time in the Colony; and, of the rest, many, possibly, who have survived three years' residence may yet owe their death to constitutional weakness acquired before arrival. There is much, therefore, to make what may be termed the liability to phthisis in New Zealand very much less than would appear from the rate previously given—8·95 per 10,000 living; and when comparing this rate with the English rate, 17·18, these elements of reduction should not be left out of consideration.

The following table gives the number and proportion per 100 deaths from phthisis, at each age-period, for the seven years 1881 to 1887 inclusive :—

Age at Death.	Males.		Females.	
	Number of Deaths.	Per 100 Deaths from Phthisis	Number of Deaths.	Per 100 Deaths from Phthisis.
Under 5 years - -	50	2·54	55	3·70
5 to 10 years - -	14	0·71	37	2·49
10 to 15 years - -	19	0·97	64	4·30
15 to 25 years - -	401	20·42	447	30·04
25 to 35 years - -	565	28·77	443	29·77
35 to 45 years - -	433	22·05	263	17·67
45 to 55 years - -	308	15·68	119	8·00
55 to 65 years - -	131	6·67	42	2·82
65 to 75 years - -	35	1·78	15	1·01
75 and upwards - -	7	0·36	2	0·13
Not specified -	1	0·05	1	0·07
Total - -	1,964	100·00	1,488	100·00

The New-Zealand born were in 1886 in the proportion of 51·89 per cent. of the whole of the population. If this proportion be applied to the mean population in 1887, the result would give 309,458 persons out of 596,374 as having been born in the Colony. The total number of deaths (534) from phthisis gives a proportion of 8·95 per 10,000 of the population. Of these deaths, 156 were of persons born in the Colony. This number gives a proportion of only 5·04 deaths from this cause per 10,000 of the New-Zealand born population. The remainder gives a proportion of 13·17 deaths from phthisis per 10,000 of the population born outside of the Colony.

The deaths from phthisis (both of males and females) were most numerous at the age-period 25 to 35 years. At the younger ages, viz., below 15, the deaths of females were more numerous than those of males. At the higher ages, above 35, the deaths of males were considerably the most numerous.

Cancer.

Again, in 1887 there was a numerical and proportional increase in the number of deaths recorded as caused by cancer. In 1886 the number of deaths was 214; in 1887, 238. In New Zealand as well as in England the death rate from cancer has steadily increased for years past. Sir Brydges Henniker, the Registrar General of England, has expressed an opinion that the increase is

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Doubtless this is the case to a considerable extent, but it is questionable if that alone will account for the steady increase during quite recent years.

The following shows the proportion of deaths from cancer to the 10,000 of population in this Colony and in England for the years given :—

Year.	New Zealand.	England.
1879	2·63	5·02
1880	2·80	5·14
1881	2·69	5·20
1882	2·89	5·32
1883	2·99	5·46
1884	3·46	5·60
1885	3·13	5·66
1886	3·68	5·83
1887	3·99	—

Local diseases. Of the class "Local Diseases," nervous diseases caused 677 deaths in 1887, against 656 in 1886, and the rate per 10,000 persons rose from 11·27 to 11·35. These rates were, however, less than that (12·02) in 1885. The mortality among males from these diseases is far greater than among females. Of the 677 deaths, 418 were of males, and 259 of females. The following of these diseases caused a much greater mortality among males :—

	Deaths in 1887.	
	Males.	Females.
Inflammation of brain	62	47
Apoplexy	84	43
Hemiplegia and paralysis	46	28
Epilepsy	31	18
Convulsions	96	73

Of these deaths, 255 were of children under 5 years of age, of which 50 were from inflammation of the brain, and 166 from convulsions.

Two hundred and sixty-four males and 145 females, a total of 409 persons, died from diseases of the circulatory system. This was an increase of only two on the deaths from similar causes in 1886. Of the males, one-fifth (20 per cent.), while of the females, 37 per cent., were under 40 years of age.

Diseases of the respiratory system caused 753 deaths, a reduction of 36 on the number in 1886. The most fatal of these diseases were croup, which caused 82 deaths, bronchitis 285, and pneumonia 219 deaths. 336 of the 753 deaths were of children under five years of age, of which croup caused 51, bronchitis 168, and pneumonia 72.

Deaths from childbirth.

Diseases of parturition caused 71 deaths. To these should be added 24 deaths from puerperal fever, pyæmia, and septicæmia, given in the septic order of zymotic diseases, to estimate the actual mortality incidental to childbearing. The total amounted to 95 deaths, being in the proportion of 49·64 deaths of mothers to every 10,000 living children born, or one mother to every 201 children born; the proportion in 1886 having been 57·51, or one mother to every 173 children born. These numbers, however, include deaths from miscarriage, and every child of twins or triplets as a separate birth. It has been shown previously that the 19,135 children represented only 18,944 confinements. The 95 deaths include seven from abortion or miscarriage. The mortality of mothers after confinements amounted in 1887 to 88, or 46·45 per 10,000 confinements, or one death out of every 215 confinements. For the purpose of comparing the mortality in this Colony with the rates elsewhere, the proportions first given, *i.e.*, total deaths to all children born, must be used.

Violent deaths.

The violent deaths numbered 555, equivalent to 9·30 per 10,000 persons living. The proportion in 1886 was 9·81. These deaths were far more numerous among the males than the females: 460 males died violent deaths, being at the rate of 14·33 per 10,000 males living; but only 95 females, or 3·45 per 10,000 living, died from violence. Of the males, 44, or nearly one-tenth (9·56 per cent.), committed suicide; the number of females who committed suicide was eight. The deaths from suicide were—

Suicide.

of males at the rate of 1·37 per 10,000, and of females 0·29 per 10,000 living; the rate of suicide among males having been nearly five times greater than among females. The deaths from suicide are in about the same proportion to the population in New Zealand as in New South Wales and South Australia. They are proportionately about 50 per cent. more numerous than in Tasmania, but considerably less numerous than in Queensland or Victoria. Suicidal deaths are proportionately much more numerous in all the Australian Colonies, with the exception of Tasmania, than in England. 149 of the deaths of males, or 32 per cent., and 26 of the deaths of females, or 27 per cent, occurred from accidental drowning.

Accidental drowning.

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The following were the number of deaths from external or violent causes in the 10 years 1878–87:—

	Males.	Females.
Accident or negligence :—		
Fractures, &c.	1,525	141
Gunshot wounds	97	3
Cut, stab	45	23
Burns and scalds	277	198
Poison	79	37
Drowning	1,316	223
Exposure	38	3
Suffocation	163	89
Otherwise	240	58
Total accidents	3,780	775
Homicide—		
Murder or manslaughter	37	35
Battle wounds	2	0
Suicide—		
Gunshot wounds	103	5
Cut, stab, &c.	74	9
Poison	67	20
Drowning	44	18
Hanging	109	18
Unspecified	25	4
Total suicides	422	74
Execution—		
Hanging	6	0

Hospitals.

"The Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, 1885," constituted 28 hospital districts, each consisting of one or more counties, with the several interior boroughs, the whole number comprising all that portion of the Colony included within the three main islands—the North, the Middle, and Stewart Islands. These several districts are presided over by elected boards. The revenues of the boards arise from Hospital or Charitable-aid Funds established by the Act, and consisting chiefly of—

(1.) Rents and profits of land and endowments vested in the board, or set apart for the benefit of particular institutions;
(2.) Voluntary contributions;
(3.) Grants from contributory local authorities; and
(4.) Subsidies from the Consolidated Fund (these being at the rate of 10*s.* for every 1*l.* of bequests, but in no case exceeding 500*l.* in respect of any one bequest); 1*l.* 4*s.* for every 1*l.* of voluntary contributions; and 1*l.* for every 1*l.* received from any local authority.

The contributory local authorities, being the county and borough councils and boards of road and town districts where the Counties Act is not in operation, were empowered by the Act to raise by special rates the amounts assessed by the hospital district

boards as the proportionate contributions for the purpose of the fund mentioned.

The district boards undertake general management and control of hospitals that are not incorporated in terms of the Act, and are required to contribute to the support of incorporated hospitals. Incorporated hospitals are those having not less than 100 subscribers, who contribute not less than 100*l.* annually to the institution by amounts of not less than 5*s.*, and who have been declared by the Governor in Council, after receipt by him of a duly-signed petition, to be a body politic and corporate.

Of the 37 hospitals in the Colony, 25 are incorporated institutions, and 12 are directly managed and controlled by district boards.

The receipts by or in respect of the 37 hospitals in the year amounted to 77,668*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, of which the receipts from local bodies, either in the way of contributions from their general revenue or out of special rates, amounted to 31,019*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*, and the receipts from the Government to 23,713*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* The other sources of receipts were—subscriptions, donations, and bequests, 6,833*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*; payments by patients, 6,635*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*; and rents, &c., 9,466*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

The expenditure in respect of all the hospitals in 1887 was 75,313*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, inclusive of the sum of 13,632*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* for additions and repairs to buildings.

The hospitals had at the end of 1887 bed accommodation for 893 males and 345 females, a total of 1,238 persons; the aggregate number of cubic feet in the sleeping wards having been 1,783,489, or an average of 1,440 ft. per bed, an increase on the similar average in 1886 of 83 cubic feet.

4,403 male and 1,619 female patients were admitted during the year 1887, 467 males and 134 females remaining at the end of the year. The total number of inmates during the year was 6,681, namely, 4,906 males and 1,775 females. Of these, 446 males, or 9·09 per cent. of all the male inmates, and 128 females, being 7·21 per cent. of all the female inmates, died during the year. The rate on both sexes was 8·59 per cent., the same as in 1886. Of the 6,681 inmates, 1,204, or 18 per cent., were suffering from accidents, of whom 38 died. 35 of the female inmates were simply lying-in patients (from childbirth), and 30 were suffering from diseases of parturition.

In addition to the inmates, the hospital returns gave a total of 10,419 distinct persons who received relief as out-door patients during the year. This number does not fully represent the number of those who received such relief, as in some of the hospitals no records of those persons are kept, and no returns of relief afforded can be made.

Benevolent asylums.

The various benevolent asylums and charitable institutions are placed upon a similar footing to the hospitals. The boards of the hospital districts are constituted hospital and charitable-aid boards, but for the purpose of distributing charitable aid only

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some of the hospital districts have been united into larger districts, so that, although there are 28 boards for hospital purposes, there are only 21 for charitable-aid purposes. Certain charitable institutions not incorporated, as herein before-mentioned in respect of hospitals, are managed by the boards, and kept out of the moneys received for the "Hospital and Charitable-aid Fund."

There are eight benevolent asylums (not including orphanages) in the Colony established for the support of certain indigent aged persons. There is accommodation in these institutions for 362 males and 168 females; and, as the number of inmates at the end of the year was 350 males and 156 females, the vacant accommodation was very little. As 489 persons were received during the year and 400 discharged, showing a constant varying stream of inmates, the permanent residents do not appear to be at all numerous.

Out-door relief was afforded by some of these institutions to 4,360 persons, including 2,538 children.

Orphan asylums.

There are six orphan asylums in the Colony. Two are maintained by district hospital boards, one by the Church of England authorities, and three by clergy of the Roman Catholic Church. Five of these receive orphan, destitute, and other children, at the charge of the State, who may be committed to them by a resident magistrate. Exclusive of the children so committed, 23 male and 55 female orphans were received during the year, and 104 male and 107 female inmates remained at the end of the year. Relief was afforded during the year to 135 males and 135 females as inmates. The orphanages that received committed children are, for that purpose, constituted "industrial schools," and the particulars of the committed children are given in the table relating to those schools.

There are seven public lunatic asylums in the Colony maintained wholly or in part out of the public revenue, and one private asylum licensed by the Governor for the reception of lunatics.

There were, at the end of 1887, 1,053 male and 642 female patients belonging to these asylums. Of these, 8 males and 14 females were out on trial. Of the inmates, 153 males and 94 females were supposed to be curable, and 892 males and 534 females to be incurable.

The number of patients at the end of the year was greater than at the end of 1886 by 44 males and 38 females.

That lunacy is on the increase in this Colony appears evident from the following statement:—

In 1878 there was, on an average, one lunatic to every 480 persons.

In 1881 there was, on an average, one lunatic to every 437 persons.

In 1884 there was, on an average, one lunatic to every 389 persons.

In 1885 there was, on an average, one lunatic to every 377 persons.
In 1886 there was, on an average, one lunatic to every 365 persons.
In 1887 there was, on an average, one lunatic to every 356 persons.

As the number of lunatics under 15 years of age is very small, the proportion of lunatics over 15 to the population over 15 would better represent the measure of lunacy, as shown by the following table :—

Census Year.	Number of Lunatics over 15 Years of Age.			Number over 15 years of Age to every 1 Lunatic of—		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1878 - - -	857	574	283	279	249	342
1881 - - -	1,105	727	378	255	227	310
1886 - - -	1,520	961	559	224	199	265

The numbers of the population on which these calculations are based do not include the Maoris.

The following shows the measure of lunacy in the undermentioned Colonies :—

New Zealand, 1887, one lunatic to every 356 persons.
Queensland, 1886, one lunatic to every 419 persons.
New South Wales, 1886, one lunatic to every 368 persons.
Victoria, 1886, one lunatic to every 297 persons.
South Australia, 1885, one lunatic to every 431 persons.
Tasmania, 1886, one lunatic to every 410 persons.

Lunacy appears thus to be more prevalent in New Zealand than in either of the Australasian Colonies, except Victoria.

Of the inmates in the lunatic asylums in New Zealand during 1887, *i.e.*, those therein at the beginning, with the addition of those admitted during the year, 5·85 per 100 of the males died, and 10·36 were discharged, while 3·53 per 100 only of the females died, but 12·43 were discharged, thus indicating a much higher rate of mortality among male than among female lunatics, but a greater proportion of recovery among the females than among the males.

Industrial schools.

There are four industrial schools maintained by the Government; there is also one institution maintained by local authorities, and three institutions maintained by the Roman Catholic clergy, previously described as orphanages, which have been constituted industrial schools for the reception of children committed to them under the Industrial Schools Act. These institutions receive a

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Two hundred and twenty-eight children of both sexes were committed to these schools in 1887, namely, 160 boys and 68 girls. 139 of these children were committed for maintenance, owing to being destitute, or on account of charges of vagrancy; 27 for living in disreputable places; and 13 for being uncontrollable by parents. 41 boys and 2 girls, who had committed punishable offences, were sent to these schools instead of being confined in gaols.

Of the total number of 1,523 children belonging to these schools at the end of 1887, only 595 were inmates of them. Of the rest, 563 were boarded out, 253 had been placed at service, and 85 were with friends.

Meteorology. Observations were taken in 1887, at 9·30 a.m. daily, at five different meteorological stations, viz., at Auckland, in the northern part of the North Island; at Rotorua, in the hot springs district; at Wellington, at the extreme south of the North Island; at Lincoln, in the Canterbury District, about midway in the Middle Island; and at Dunedin, in the southern district of the Middle Island.

The differences of elevation and latitude between the several stations involve great variations of temperature. The mean temperature in the shade varied from 59° 6′ Fahr. in Auckland to 51° 7′ at Dunedin; but the range of temperature was greatest in the southern portion of the Colony, at Lincoln and Dunedin, for there the maximum recorded temperature in the shade was 92°, against 81° 5′ at Auckland. The maximum temperature in the shade at Rotorua was 88° 5′, and at Wellington 83°. The extreme range of temperature during the year was lowest in Auckland, 46° 5′, and highest at Lincoln, 67°; next at Rotorua, 66° 5′; next highest at Dunedin, 62°; and next at Wellington, 52°. The mean daily range was lowest in Auckland, 12° 6′, and next lowest in Wellington, 13° 1′.

The greatest rainfall during the year at either of these stations occurred at Wellington, 56·969 in. The rainfall was 37·710 in. at Auckland, 53·550 in. at Rotorua, 32·890 in. at Lincoln, and 39·144 in. at Dunedin.

The average of the rainfalls for the past 10 years was 52·721 in. at Wellington, 39·082 in. at Auckland, and 37·716 in. at Dunedin. The rainfall at Lincoln for the past seven years averaged 28·929 in. The highest average of the recorded rainfalls in the Colony is that for Hokitika, on the west coast of the Middle Island. Daily observations have not been continued there since 1880, but for the 10 years 1871 to 1880 inclusive the rainfall averaged 122·990 in. per annum; the greatest rainfall in either of those years having been 154·446 in., and the smallest 96·170 in.

The greatest number of gales or high winds occur in Wellington, owing, doubtless, to its situation on the borders of the narrowest part of Cook Strait.

The number of days on which there were high winds in 1887 was above the average.

	Number of Days on which there were Gales or High Winds.	Maximum Velocity of Wind in Miles in any 24 Hours.	Mean Velocity of Wind in Miles in 24 Hours for the Year.
Auckland - -	19	738	142
Wellington - -	72	750	228
Lincoln - - -	29	720	254
Dunedin - - -	17	570	132

The maximum velocity of wind in the year was in Wellington, but the mean velocity in 24 hours for the year was greater in Lincoln. On an average of years the maximum velocity is highest in Auckland, where gales of the greatest violence are occasionally experienced.

The average of the maximum velocities in Auckland in 7 out of the 10 years, 1878–87 (during 3 years the records of wind are incomplete), was 776 miles. For the same 10 years the average of the maximum velocities was for Wellington 664 miles, and Dunedin 610 miles. The average for the 7 years, 1881–87, at Lincoln was 641 miles.

Law and Crime.

Supreme Court civil cases.

The number of writs of summons tested in the Supreme Court during 1887 was 1,521, being a decrease on the number in 1886 of 169. The number of cases tried was 233, against 208 in the previous year. 161 of the cases in 1887 were tried by a judge without a jury. The aggregate of the amounts for which judgments were recorded came to 143,406*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* 277 writs of execution were issued during the year from the Supreme Court.

District Courts civil cases.

The number of civil cases disposed of in the District Courts was 202, of which 135 were tried, 17 before juries and 118 before a judge only. The aggregate of the amounts sued for was 12,776*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*, and judgments were recorded for a total amount of 5,363 1*s.* 9¼*d.* 30,737 civil cases, representing claims to the amount of 344,971*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, were commenced in the various Resident Magistrates' Courts. Judgments were given therein for an aggregate amount of 180,457*l.* 3*s.*

The total number of civil cases in all the courts was thus 32,460 in 1887, against 31,815 in 1886; and the aggregate amount for which judgments were given was 329,226*l.* in 1887, against 287,559*l.* in 1886.

Bankruptcy.

The petitions in bankruptcy were 53 fewer than in the previous year. As compared with the results in 1886, there was a large decrease in the amount of unsecured assets, as set forth in the filed

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statements, but the decrease in the amounts secured to creditors was not very great.

The following gives the number of the petitions, the total amount of the unsecured assets, the amount of unsecured debts, and the amount of dividends paid for the past three years :—

Year.	No. of Petitions in Bankruptcy.	Debtors' Statements of Assets, excluding Assets secured.	Amounts realised by Official Assignees.	Amounts of Debts proved.	Amounts paid in Dividends and Preferential Claims.
		£	£	£	£
1885 - - -	984	297,306	109,862	332,887	94,188
1886 - - -	1,089	415,953	128,370	566,291	102,966
1887 - - -	1,036	311,745	135,633	503,759	109,255

Taking the average results of the transactions in the three years, it appears that the realised assets amounted to 36·47 per cent. of the assets as set forth in the debtors' statements, equal to 7*s.* 3¼*d.* realised for every pound stated.

The amounts paid to the creditors amounted to 81·96 per cent. of the amounts realised, and to 4*s.* 4⅜*d.* in the pound of the total amount of the debts proved. The payments, however, include preferential claims paid in full. Deducting these preferential claims from the debts proved and payments made, the resulting average amount in the pound paid to unsecured creditors who had not preferential claims was 3*s.* 5½*d.* in the pound.

There were 20,336 charges against persons for various offences brought before the Magistrates' Courts in 1887. These include repeated charges against the same person. In 1886 the number was 21,662. There was, thus, in 1887 a decrease on the number in 1886 of 1,326 in the number of charges. Of these charges in 1887, 412 were against persons of the aboriginal native race—a decrease of 23 on the number in the previous year.

Criminal cases before Resident Magistrates' Courts.

The number of summary convictions was 15,557, including those of 279 aboriginal natives. Of the number of persons convicted, 8,261 were fined, 2,187 were imprisoned in lieu of fine or finding surety, and 1,859 were sentenced to terms of imprisonment. 605 males (including 20 Maoris) and 41 females (including 4 Maoris) were committed for trial to the Superior Courts, being an increase of 97 males and 13 females on the number of each committed in 1886.

Criminal cases before Superior Courts.

Five hundred and twenty-two persons, of whom 23 were Maoris, were indicted in the Supreme and District Courts in 1887. There was a decrease of 28 on the number of Maoris indicted in the previous year, but an increase of 78 in the number of other persons.

Of the persons other than Maoris indicted, 38 males and 5 females were convicted of offences against the person, 209 males and 12 females of offences against property, and 67 males and 3 females of other offences.

Of the Maoris indicted, 64 males were convicted of offences against the person, 5 of offences against property, and 2 males and 2 females of other offences.

Summary convictions for five years.

The number of summary convictions in the various Magistrates' Courts for certain of the most numerous offences in each of the past five years, together with the proportion per 1,000 of the mean population (exclusive of Maoris), are given herewith :—

	Number.					Proportion per 1,000 of the Population.				
	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Assaults -	667	743	780	705	731	1·26	1·34	1·38	1·21	1·23
Larceny -	687	737	768	845	764	1·29	1·33	1·36	1·45	1·28
Drunkenness	6,779	6,527	6,494	5,983	5,372	12·81	11·81	11·49	10·28	9·01

The decrease in the number and proportion of convictions for drunkenness is very striking.

The results of the past year give satisfactory evidence of the continued progressive decrease in the proportions of charges and convictions in the various Magistrates' Courts to the whole population. The convictions before Superior Courts show an increasing tendency.

Year.	Charges before Magistrates.		Summary Convictions.		Convictions in Superior Courts.	
	No.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.	No.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.	No.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.
1878 - - - -	21,880	51·66	16,119	38·08	286	·66
1879 - - - -	21,879	47·18	15,821	34·12	287	·62
1880 - - - -	20,750	43·74	14,778	31·16	295	·62
1881 - - - -	19,297	39·11	13,795	28·16	214	·43
1882 - - - -	22,108	43·41	16,220	31·85	200	·39
1883 - - - -	22,511	42·52	16,590	31·35	189	·36
1884 - - - -	23,105	41·81	17,672	31·98	219	·39
1885 - - - -	22,709	39·61	17,566	30·64	223	·39
1886 - - - -	21,227	36·46	16,428	28·22	259	·44
1887 - - - -	19,924	33·41	15,278	25·61	334	·56

The convictions for offences against the person and against property were, in the past five years, in the following proportions per 1,000 of the population :—

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Offences against the person -	1·47	1·57	1·52	1·39	1·43
Offences against property -	2·41	2·14	2·22	2·42	2·46

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The following statement gives the number of convictions in the Inferior and Superior Courts for offences against the person and property to every 1,000 of the population in the Colonies mentioned for the years given :—

	New Zealand. 1887.	Queensland. 1887.	New South Wales. 1887.	Victoria. 1886.	South Australia. 1886.	Tasmania. 1887.
Offences against the person -	1·43	3·81	4·77	1·79	1·24	1·99
Offences against property -	2·46	3·27	4·33	2·58	1·41	3·35
Total - -	3·89	7·08	9·10	4·37	2·65	5·34

The convictions in these classes of offences are proportionally fewer in New Zealand than in either of the Australasian Colonies, except South Australia.

Summary convictions of Maoris.

Two hundred and seventy-nine Maoris were convicted in 1887 in the Magistrates' Courts of various offences. Of these, 37 males and 12 females had committed offences against the person, 45 males and three females offences against property, and 152 males and 30 females had committed other offences. 20 males and four females were committed for trial to the Superior Courts.

Maoris convicted before Superior Courts.

The number of Maoris convicted in the Superior Courts during the year was 13; of these, three males were guilty of murder, and one of unlawfully wounding. Five males were convicted for obtaining goods under false pretences, one male was guilty of forgery, and one male and two females were guilty of perjury.

Prisoners received in gaols.

The returns from the various gaols give a total of 4,798 prisoners received during the year, a number less than that in 1886 by 205. Of these, 250 were confined on account of debt or lunacy (including 14 Maoris), and 170 were Maoris who had been guilty of offences. Exclusive of debtors, lunatics, and Maoris, 4,378 persons were received in the gaols during the year, a decrease of 250 on the number in 1886.

This number includes the repeated admissions of the same persons during the year. In addition to the usual returns, a separate card for each admission is furnished from each gaol, in consequence of which, by throwing out all cards over one referring to the same person, the actual number of distinct persons received in the various gaols during the year can be ascertained.

Prisoners received in gaol, not counting re-admissions.

The total number of distinct persons (exclusive of Maoris) received in gaol after conviction in 1887 amounted to 2,639, and the number received against whom no conviction was recorded, having been either on remand, waiting trial, or discharged, was 355. There was thus a decrease of 135 on the number of separate convicted prisoners in 1886, and an increase of nine on the number of those not convicted. These numbers do not include children committed to the industrial schools on account of being destitute or uncontrollable, who had not been convicted of any actual offence.

The following statement shows the number of distinct persons who were imprisoned in 1885, 1886, and 1887, and the causes for imprisonment, only one cause being given in cases where the same person was imprisoned for various offences at different times:—

	Convicted.			Not convicted, on Remand, waiting Trial, &c.		
	1885.	1886.	1887.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Felony and larceny - -	598	594	526	174	165	176
Misdemeanor - - -	100	90	120	60	63	64
Injury to property - -	42	54	62	6	4	—
Assault and resisting the police	180	209	178	10	11	11
Acts of vagrancy - - -	244	205	238	18	8	10
Drunkenness - - -	1,200	1,077	1,038	71	48	50
Other offences - - -	688	545	477	54	47	44
Total - - -	3,052	2,774	2,639	393	346	355

There has been, thus, a considerable decrease in each year on the number of distinct convicted prisoners received during the year. The prisoners convicted of larceny were many fewer in 1887 than in 1886; but the general decrease in the total number of imprisonments is chiefly due to fewer convictions for drunkenness and minor offences. In 1885 the convicted prisoners amounted to 53·56 per 10,000 of the population, in 1886 to 47·82, and in 1887 to 44·25.

It must be understood that the actual number of imprisonments for many of the above offences were much more numerous than the figures given, as a considerable number of persons underwent repeated imprisonments for either the same or some other offence; thus, persons stated to have been imprisoned for larceny underwent other imprisonments for drunkenness, &c. Many imprisoned for drunkenness were several times in gaol during the year for the same or other offences, as assault, riotous or indecent conduct, &c. In many cases there were several charges against the same person at the one time, the most serious of which, followed by conviction, has been selected. These numbers do not include Maori prisoners.

The following tables have been compiled for the purpose of showing the number of distinct prisoners (exclusive of Maoris) received in gaol after conviction in 1887, for each class of offence stated, arranged according to the principal religious denominations, birthplaces, and ages:—

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Particulars respecting prisoners, not counting re-admissions to gaol.

	Felony and Larceny.		Misdemeanor.		Injury to Property.		Assault and resisting Police.		Vagrancy.		Drunkenness.		Other Offences.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Religions.																
Church of England	255	24	51	9	26	3	74	3	65	36	338	61	167	37	976	173
Roman Catholic	101	11	21	7	16	4	57	1	55	36	303	89	125	32	678	180
Presbyterian	71	10	13	1	16	1	23	3	20	6	160	26	57	6	351	53
Wesleyan	15	4	9	1	1	—	6	—	4	—	12	2	14	1	61	8
Others	34	1	8	—	4	—	11	—	16	—	43	4	35	3	151	8
Totals	476	50	102	18	54	8	171	7	160	78	856	182	398	79	2,217	422
Birthplaces.																
England and Wales	200	12	45	4	20	1	56	2	63	18	294	49	130	18	808	104
Scotland	48	8	11	3	3	—	16	2	16	8	142	27	46	7	282	55
Ireland	62	15	16	9	14	5	42	3	36	27	285	79	82	26	537	164
New Zealand	92	8	15	—	10	2	29	—	14	14	36	15	30	17	246	56
Australian Colonies	20	3	3	2	1	—	8	—	3	8	23	8	23	6	81	27
Other British Possessions	11	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	5	—	16	2	12	3	51	5
China	4	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	17	—
Other countries	39	4	8	—	5	—	12	—	23	3	60	2	48	2	195	11
Totals	476	50	102	18	54	8	171	7	160	78	856	182	398	79	2,217	422

(*continued.*)

——	Felony and Larceny.		Misdemeanor.		Injury to Property.		Assault and resisting Police.		Vagrancy.		Drunkenness.		Other Offences.		Totals.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Ages.																
Under 10 - - - - -	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
10 and under 12 - - - -	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—
12 and under 15 - - - -	18	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	22	4
15 and under 20 - - - -	86	3	9	—	7	1	21	—	6	9	9	3	24	9	162	25
20 and under 25 - - - -	63	5	12	—	3	1	36	1	12	9	50	10	60	16	236	42
25 and under 30 - - - -	65	7	13	1	8	2	29	1	15	11	99	12	59	12	288	46
30 and under 40 - - - -	95	15	29	5	17	1	32	3	43	26	272	71	108	21	596	142
40 and under 50 - - - -	85	14	27	9	12	2	33	2	47	15	234	61	91	13	529	116
50 and under 60 - - - -	47	4	10	2	4	1	16	—	19	4	151	21	41	7	288	39
60 and over - - - - -	13	—	1	1	2	—	3	—	17	2	41	4	12	1	89	8
Totals - - - -	476	50	102	18	54	8	171	7	160	78	856	182	398	79	2,217	422

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First offenders treated under Probation Act.

Of the above prisoners convicted, 19 males and 1 female were released on probation under "The First Offenders' Probation Act, 1886." The report of the Inspector of Prisons shows that 103 first offenders were treated under this Act in 1887; therefore, for the purposes of comparison with the number of convicted prisoners in 1886, these should be taken into account, for had it not been for the provisions of that Act these probationers would all have figured as convicted prisoners; but, as in the report no information is given as to the birthplaces and religions of, or offences committed by, these probationers, their numbers, except the 20 previously mentioned, cannot be so included for the above purpose.

Religious denominations of prisoners.

The following were the proportions of those belonging to each of the four principal denominations in every 100 distinct convicted prisoners in 1885, 1886, and 1887:—

Denomination of convicted Prisoners.	Proportion per 100 of convicted Prisoners.			Proportion of Denomination per 100 of Population at Census of 1886.
	1885.	1886.	1887.	
Church of England -	41·68	41·71	43·54	40·17
Roman Catholic -	33·62	34·39	32·51	13·95
Presbyterian - -	15·10	15·57	15·31	22·59
Wesleyan -	2·62	2·27	2·61	9·55

Birthplaces of prisoners.

Still excluding Maoris, the following are the proportions of distinct convicted prisoners, classified according to birthplace, for each of the three past years:—

Birthplaces.	No. of convicted Prisoners.			Proportion of each Nationality to every 100 Prisoners.			Proportion of Persons of each Nationality to every 100 of the Population in 1886.
	1885.	1886.	1887.	1885.	1886.	1887.	
England and Wales - -	1,094	986	912	35·84	35·54	34·56	22·06
Scotland - - -	405	376	337	13·27	13·55	12·77	9·48
Ireland - - -	846	750	701	27·72	27·04	26·56	8·89
New Zealand - - -	253	280	302	8·29	10·09	11·44	51·89
Australian Colonies and other British Possessions.	174	168	164	5·70	6·06	6·22	3·66
China - - - -	17	16	17	0·56	0·58	0·64	0·79
Other foreign countries -	263	198	206	8·62	7·14	7·81	3·23
	—	—	—	—	—	—	100·00

Religion, age, and birthplace of prisoners, with nature of offence.

The following table gives the religions, birthplaces, and ages in combination with the charges made against distinct prisoners (exclusive of Maoris) received in the several gaols during the year

1887, who were either discharged, not convicted, or were awaiting trial at the end of the year:—

	Felony and Larceny.	Misdemeanor.	Assault and resisting Police.	Vagrancy.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.	Total.
Religions.							
Church of England	82	32	4	3	26	19	166
Roman Catholic	48	13	4	4	11	11	91
Presbyterian	29	7	1	2	12	9	60
Wesleyan	7	3	1	—	—	3	14
Others	14	9	1	1	1	2	28
Totals	180	64	11	10	50	44	359
Birthplaces.							
England and Wales	58	18	4	1	17	13	111
Scotland	13	6	1	—	8	4	32
Ireland	33	9	—	6	17	15	80
New Zealand	59	14	3	2	1	7	86
Australian Colonies	2	10	—	—	4	1	17
Other British Possessions	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
China	3	2	—	—	—	—	5
Other countries	12	5	2	1	3	3	26
Totals	180	64	11	10	50	44	359
Ages.							
Under 10	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
10 and under 12	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
12 and under 15	17	2	1	1	—	—	21
15 and under 20	29	8	1	—	—	5	43
20 and under 25	26	9	2	2	2	5	46
25 and under 30	25	12	1	1	4	6	49
30 and under 40	33	10	3	3	24	14	87
40 and under 50	29	11	3	1	11	10	65
50 and under 60	11	6	—	1	8	2	28
60 and over	2	6	—	1	1	2	12
Totals	180	64	11	10	50	44	359

New-Zealand born prisoners.

Dealing separately with the New-Zealand-born prisoners, the following tables combining their ages and offences are given. These are also so many distinct persons, and do not include members of the Maori race:—

Distinct New-Zealand-born Prisoners received during the Year 1887.

Offences.	Convicted.																	
	Under 10.		10 and under 12.		12 and under 15.		15 and under 20.		20 and under 25.		25 and under 30.		30 and under 40.		40 and upwards.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M..	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Felony and larceny	4	—	1	—	13	1	40	1	15	4	11	1	7	1	1	—	92	8
Misdemeanor	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	4	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	15	—
Wilful injury to property	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	10	2
Assault and resisting police	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	—	11	—	6	—	1	—	1	—	29	—
Acts of vagrancy	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	7	1	1	2	2	5	3	1	1	14	14
Drunkenness	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	14	3	10	—	8	7	2	2	36	15
Other offences	—	—	2	—	1	—	14	7	14	3	8	3	10	4	1	—	50	17
Totals	4	—	4	—	17	1	79	19	60	11	39	7	37	15	6	3	246	56
Totals, 1886	6		10		27		91		59		39		39		9		280	
	Not convicted or awaiting Trial.																	
Felony and larceny	1		7		12		18		11		7		2		1		59	
Misdemeanor	—		—		1		6		3		1		1		2		14	
Assault and resisting police	—		—		—		1		—		1		1		—		3	
Acts of vagrancy	—		—		1		—		1		—		—		—		2	
Drunkenness	—		—		—		—		—		—		—		1		1	
Other offences	—		—		—		1		4		—		1		1		7	
Totals	1		7		14		26		19		9		5		5		86	
Totals, 1886	4		3		8		21		16		11		3		1		67	

There was an increase in 1887 of 22 in the number of convicted New-Zealand-born prisoners on that in 1886; but the comparison is materially affected by the fact that many first offenders were liberated on probation without having been in gaol in 1887 who in 1886 would have been imprisoned after conviction. Of the number of probationers in 1887, 60 were under 20 years of age, the majority of whom were probably born in the Colony. The numbers on probation will also chiefly account for the fewer juvenile convicted New-Zealand-born prisoners.

The number of these in 1886 was 43 under 15 years of age; in 1887 only 26, a decrease of 17; but there were 16 probationers under 15 in 1887; these would, if the Act of 1886 had not been in operation, have made the numbers in each year nearly equal.

Proportions of sexes in convicted prisoners.

Of the convicted prisoners of all nationalities, the males comprised 84 per cent., and the females 16 per cent., the male prisoners being in the proportion of 6·9 per 1,000 of the male population living, and the females 1·53 per 1,000 females living. The relative criminality of the sexes as shown by the number of convicted prisoners was thus 6·9 males to 1·53 females, or, in equal numbers living, 100 female criminals to 451 male criminals.

The following were the respective proportions of the convicted prisoners at each age-period to every 100 of each sex :—

Age.	Male Prisoners.	Per 100 Male Prisoners.	Female Prisoners.	Per 100 Female Prisoners.
Under 20 years - -	191	8·62	29	6·87
20 and under 30 - -	524	23·64	88	20·85
30 and under 40 - -	596	26·88	142	33·65
40 and under 50 - -	529	23·86	116	27·49
50 and under 60 - -	288	12·99	39	9·24
60 and upwards - -	89	4·01	8	1·90
Total - -	2,217	100·00	422	100·00

Inquests.

Inquests were held during the year on the bodies of 603 males and 143 females, a total of 746. Of these, the deaths of 321 males and 50 females were attributed to accidental causes; 137 of the males and 19 of the females were drowned. The deaths from railway accidents were 7 in number, all of males. Of these, 2 fell from a train engine, 1 was knocked down by an engine and trucks, and 4 were run over by train or trucks.

In the previous year 8 inquests were held on the bodies of persons who died from railway accidents.

The number of inquests on suicidal deaths in 1887 was 52, against 59 in 1886.

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Fire inquests.

Seventy inquests were held on fires in 1887, an increase of 24 on the number in the previous year. Of these fires, 19 were directly attributed to incendiarism, and 5 proved to be accidental. The evidence was not sufficient to enable a definite verdict to be given as to the cause of fire in the other cases.

Education.

Schools.

At the end of 1887 there were 1,513 schools of all classes at which members of the European and Maori races were being educated. This was an increase of 572 on the number of schools in 1886. The public primary schools numbered 1,093 in 1887, against 1,054 in 1886, an increase in the year of 39. The number of aided or endowed colleges and grammar and high schools was the same (23) in each year; and the private schools numbered 299 in 1887, an increase of 11 on the number in 1886. There were 10 industrial schools and orphanages, public and private, in each year; and the number of schools established for the education of the Maori race was 88 in 1887, against 81 in 1886.

Public-school system.

Education at the public schools is free (except at those which have been converted into district high schools, at which the pupils learning the higher branches are charged fees) and purely secular. The attendance of all children between the ages of 7 and 13 is compulsory, except when special exemptions are granted, or they are being otherwise sufficiently educated.

Children on rolls.

The number of European children on the rolls of attendance of the various schools in the last quarter of 1887 was 127,395, being an increase during the year of 5,484. Half-castes living among Europeans are here included in the number of Europeans. Of these, 110,576 attended the public schools, 2,242 attended the colleges and grammar and high schools, 13,387 attended private schools, 416 attended the native village schools, and 774 were inmates of industrial schools and orphanages.

There was thus, as compared with the numbers at the end of 1886, an increase of 4,723 in the attendance at the public schools, a decrease of 116 in the numbers attending the colleges and superior schools, an increase of 914 in the numbers attending private schools, and a decrease of 17 in the number of inmates of industrial schools and orphanages.

Attendance at public schools.

Exclusive of Maoris, but including half-castes living among Europeans, there were 57,259 boys and 53,317 girls in attendance at the public schools during the last quarter of 1887, the increase on the numbers in 1886 having been 2,408 boys and 2,315 girls. There were 1,259 male and 1,604 female teachers (exclusive of 182 sewing mistresses) at these schools in 1887, a total of 2,863 against 2,721 in 1886, and 2,619 in 1885. Of the teachers in 1887, 228 males and 768 females were pupil-teachers.

The secondary or superior schools consist of aided or endowed colleges and grammar and high schools. Of the 23 schools of this class, 8 were for boys only, 6 for girls only, and 9 for both boys and girls. The number of regular instructors was 128, and the

number of visiting instructors 30. The number of pupils on the rolls for the last term of 1887 was 2,242. Of these, 1,424 were boys and 818 were girls.

New Zealand University.

The New Zealand University is not a teaching body, the undergraduates for the most part keeping their terms at one or other of the affiliated institutions, which are the following: The Auckland University College, the Canterbury College, and the University of Otago, each having a staff of professors.

The Auckland University College was attended in 1887 by 6 graduates, 44 undergraduates, and 57 non-matriculated students, of whom 39 were women; 313 students attended the Canterbury College, of whom 140 had matriculated; and the classes at the Otago University were attended by 168 students, of whom 99 had matriculated.

The number of graduates on the 1st June 1887 who had obtained direct degrees was 168. The number of undergraduates on the roll of the university was 846. 503 undergraduates were keeping terms on the 1st June 1888, of whom 159 were females. The number includes 30 males, medical students.

Private schools.

Returns were received from 299 private schools which were in operation at the end of 1887, an increase of 11 on the number in 1886. Of these schools, 34 were for boys only, 64 for girls only, and 201 for children of both sexes. The number of teachers therein was 700, viz., 131 males and 569 females, and the number of pupils 13,417, of whom 30 females were Maoris. Exclusive of Maoris, there was an increase in the year of 555 in the number of boys and 359 in the number of girls attending private schools.

It was at one time feared by the proprietors of private schools that they would not be able to hold their own on account of the competition caused by the system of free public education. This fear seems to have been premature, for, instead of a diminution in the number of private schools, the number has of late steadily, although slowly, increased, as shown by the following table:—

	Number.	Number of Boys.*	Number of Girls.*	Total Pupils.
1882 - - -	262	4,136	5,866	10,002
1883 - - -	257	4,731	6,514	11,245
1884 - - -	265	5,045	7,111	12,156
1885 - - -	280	4,951	7,002	11,953
1886 - - -	288	5,216	7,257	12,473
1887 - - -	299	5,771	7,616	13,387

* Exclusive of Maoris.

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Total children receiving school education.

Of the 13,387 pupils, 8,946 attended Roman Catholic schools.

The total number of children of European descent (including only those half-castes living among and as Europeans) who were known to be in the receipt of some educational training at the end of 1887 was 127,395. Of these, 3,449 were known to be either under 5 or over 15. The ages of the children attending private schools has not been given, but some at the infant schools were probably under five. In the following numbers the whole of the pupils at the private schools have been deemed to be between 5 and 15 years of age.

The number of children living at the ages 5 to 15 on the 31st December 1887 is estimated at 158,261, exclusive of Maoris.

The number of European children at the ages 5 to 15 receiving education was as follows :—

In public schools - - -	108,135
In superior and high schools - -	1,274
At industrial schools and orphanages -	734
At native village schools - -	416
At private schools - - -	13,387
	123,946

To these should be added the number receiving tuition at home. According to the census returns in 1886, 7,567 children were receiving home tuition. The above number may, therefore, fairly be increased by 7,000, thus giving 130,946 as the number of children at 5 to 15 receiving education out of 158,261 living, leaving 27,315 not accounted for.

Proportion of children from 5 to 15 years of age in attendance at school.

On the basis of the numbers living at the census of 1886 there should have been at the end of 1887 about 36,400 children at the ages five to seven years. Of the children attending the public schools in December 1887, 19,973, or 18·1 per cent., were between five and seven years of age. Assuming that there was the same proportion among the children attending private schools, it would appear that only 22,396 children out of 36,400 at the ages five to seven years were attending school. Thus, out of the 27,315 children unaccounted for, 14,004 were apparently under seven years of age. The remaining 13,311 were, therefore, between 7 and 15, and probably the greater part of this number represent children between 11 and 15 who had completed their school course.

Children leaving school before 15 years of age.

There is no doubt that a considerable number of children do leave school before reaching the age of 15. The decreasing numbers passing the higher standards may be referred to in support of this statement. The actual number of children who left the public schools in 1887 is not known, but it is known, from a comparison of the numbers above the Second Standard with the numbers promoted from that standard, that at least 8,216 did leave in that year; and that of the 8,216 there were only 2,938 who had passed either of the standards above the Fourth, and there were 3,267 who had not passed the Fourth Standard.

In the report on the census of 1886 the conclusion was arrived at that there were only about 2,404, or 2·6 per cent., of the children between 7 and 13 years of age whose education was entirely neglected.

Native schools.

The number of native village schools at the end of 1887 either supported or subsidised by the Government was 79, an increase of eight on the number in 1886. In addition there were two more subsidised private schools for the education of Maori children only, and seven boarding schools for native children, the cost of whose maintenance was paid either by the Government or out of endowments.

The number of Maori children attending schools at the end of 1887 was 2,812, viz., 1,612 males and 1,200 females. These included children of mixed European and Maori blood who live as members of native tribes.

The following is a statement of the number of Maori children who were attending schools in 1886 and 1887 :—

	Boys.		Girls.		Total of both Sexes.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
At public European schools - -	279	190	196	153	475	343
At Native village schools - -	1,084	1,291	826	924	1,910	2,215
At subsidised or endowed boarding schools - - - - - -	101	101	61	55	162	156
At private European or Native schools	37	30	63	68	100	98
Totals - - -	1,501	1,612	1,146	1,200	2,647	2,812

There was, thus, an increase of 165 on the number of native children who were being educated in 1887. There was a decrease of 132 in the number attending the European public schools, but an increase of 305 on the number attending the native village schools.

Proportion of Maori children 5 to 15 in attendance at school.

The information supplied respecting the ages of the Maoris at the census of 1881 was very incomplete, and therefore only a merely approximate estimate can be given as to the numbers living at the usual school-ages 5 to 15. Out of a Maori population of 22,840 males and 19,129 females, the ages of 21,724 males and 17,936 females were given as either under or over 15 years. The proportions of those under 15, if applied to the whole of the population, would give 7,226 males and 6,420 females under 15 years of age. If it be assumed that the numbers living under five years of age bear the same proportion to the whole number under 15 years of age as in the European portion of the population, the above numbers would give 4,596 Maori males and 4,082 Maori females between 5 and 15 years of age. As all the children attending the private and public schools may be fairly taken at over 5 and under 15 years of age, and the ages of those attending

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native schools are ascertainable, it may be roughly stated that nearly 32 per cent. of the Maori boys and nearly 27 per cent. of the Maori girls between 5 and 15 years of age attend schools.

Income of education boards.

The total income of the various education boards for the year 1887 amounted to 417,881*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*; of this, the sum of 388,056*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* was received from the Government. This last amount included—(1) grants consisting of the statutory allowance of 3*l.* 15*s.* per child in daily average attendance, a capitation allowance of 4*s.* for incidental expenses (now discontinued), and a further capitation allowance of 1*s.* 6*d.* for scholarships; and (2) the amount of 55,451*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* for buildings and playgrounds. The amounts received from the Government in 1887 exceeded the similar amounts received in 1886 by 9,867*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

Expenditure of boards.

The total expenditure amounted to 413,920*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, of which the sum of 340,407*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* was for maintenance of schools (the salaries paid to the teachers in December 1887 were at the rate of 293,708*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* per annum); 9,893*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* for the expenses of the boards; 10,731*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* for inspection of schools and examination of pupil-teachers; 52,621*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* on school buildings; and 267*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* for miscellaneous payments.

Expenditure on native village schools.

The expenditure in 1887 on account of the native village schools was 18,232*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* Further sums, amounting to 3,836*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*, were expended for the following purposes: Maintenance of Maoris at the subsidised boarding schools, as grants for higher education and apprenticeship; inspection; grants to education boards for the establishment of schools for Europeans and Maoris; and miscellaneous services.

Cost of industrial schools.

The following was the cost of the Government industrial schools in 1887 :—

School.	Cost of School.	Cost of Boarding-out.	Recoveries.	Net Cost.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland (2) - - - -	1,922 17 6	2,004 12 0	1,421 0 1	2,506 9 5
Burnham - - - -	2,905 13 8	3,935 0 9	3,466 8 5	3,374 6 0
Caversham - - - -	3,188 13 0	3,992 17 1	3,806 13 8	3,374 16 5
Totals - - -	8,017 4 2	9,932 9 10	8,694 2 2	9,255 11 10
Salaries and expenses of visiting officer - - - - -	—	—	—	238 2 5
Grand total - -	—	—	—	9,493 14 3

The net cost was less in 1887 than in 1886 by 6,918*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, in consequence of the larger amount of recoveries in 1887, which exceeded those in 1886 by 5,733*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*; the amounts having been received in 1887 principally from charitable-aid boards. The average cost for the maintenance by the Government of each child committed to the several industrial schools was about 21*l.* 12*s.*, including outfits for boarded-out children and all administrative expenses connected with them. As part of the expenditure

is in respect of children who, although belonging to the schools are at service or with their friends, and who are not included in the number used to estimate the above amount of expenditure per head, that amount of 21*l.* 12*s.* is undoubtedly in excess of the actual cost per head of those in the schools.

The payment for a child under 15 years of age committed to a private industrial school, and also for a boarded-out child, is 1*s.* per day, or 18*l.* 5*s.* a year; but, as many of the children require an outfit before they can be sent out to board, and as their affairs occupy much of the time of the managers of the schools and other officers, that amount does not cover all the cost to the State of boarded-out children.

Institution for deaf-mutes.

In addition to the children previously enumerated as attending school, there were, at the end of 1887, 42 pupils attending the Government institution for deaf-mutes at Sumner. The children are taught to speak with their mouth, and to read articulate-speech by observing the movement of the lips. The expenditure of the school for the year 1887 was 3,732*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* Parents sending their children to the institution are required, if able to do so, to pay 40*l.* a year for the instruction and maintenance of each child. The contributions under this head in 1887 only amounted to 318*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

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Revenue of local bodies.

The total revenue for the past financial year of the various counties, borough councils, and road, town, river, drainage, and harbour boards (excepting four road district boards and one town board, from which no returns have been received) amounted to 1,228,898*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, of which the receipts from rates amounted to 433,831*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*, and those from the General Government to 334,857*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

The receipts which did not form part of the revenue amounted to 511,594*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*; these included the receipts from loans, the outstanding loans having been increased during the year by 192,056*l.*

Expenditure of local bodies.

The total expenditure of these bodies amounted to 1,819,787*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*, of which the amount spent on public works was 1,269,374*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, including 145,316*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* interest on loans.

Liabilities and loans of local bodies.

The aggregate liabilities of the local bodies at the end of their last financial year were 6,525,768*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, of which the outstanding loans (exclusive of those repayable to the General Government under "The Roads and Bridges Construction Act, 1882," and "The Loans to Local Bodies Act, 1886," together making 214,874*l.*) amounted to 5,812,803*l.*, bearing rates of interest varying from 4 to 8 per cent.; the sum bearing a lower rate of interest than 5 per cent. was only 427,000*l.*

The value of rateable property in counties does not include the value of all properties therein, as certain Crown lands and all unoccupied native lands not lying within five miles of a highway are excluded.

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The total value of rateable property in counties which was not included in any town or road districts was, on the 31st March 1888, 26,109,094*l.* Of this, the value of the rateable Crown and native lands on which rates were paid by the Government amounted to 5,832,051*l.*

Increase in total value of rateable property.

The total value of the properties on which rates were paid by individuals increased during the year by 1,780,283*l.*, and the value of rateable Crown and native lands by 264,808*l.*

The revenue for the year ending the 31st March 1888 of all the counties in which the Counties Act is in full operation was 341,810*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, of which the sum of 102,937*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* was received from rates.

The expenditure of these counties during the same period was 354,345*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, of which the amount of 255,141*l.* 15*s.* was spent on public works; 41,544*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* on management; and 28,977*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* on hospitals and charitable aid.

Rating in boroughs.

In the majority of the boroughs the rates are levied on the annual values of the rateable properties, and the returns only give these values; but in 10 boroughs the returns for the last year gave the estimated capital values of the properties, these boroughs having adopted the property-tax valuations under "The Rating Act, 1882." The aggregate annual value of properties in 71 boroughs was, in March 1888, 2,166,905*l.* The Act under which the valuation is made provides for a reduction from the renting-value of 20 per cent. on houses and buildings, and 10 per cent. on land. The actual annual values of the properties will therefore be greater than the rating-values given by from 11 to 25 per cent.

The estimated capital value of property in the remaining 10 boroughs was 2,052,063*l.*

The total revenues of the boroughs for the past year amounted to 385,494*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*; of this, the sum of 214,135*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* was received from rates.

Of a total expenditure by the boroughs, amounting to 569,172*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*, the sum of 281,618*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* was spent on public works. The charges for interest on loans amounted to 145,935*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* and the official expenses of management came to 42,080*l.* 6*s* 3*d.*

Indebtedness of boroughs.

The indebtedness of the boroughs on account of outstanding loans was, at the end of March 1888, 2,527,353*l.*; being an increase of 74,768*l.* since March 1887. This amount of indebtedness does not include the debt of 200,000*l.* due by the Christchurch Drainage Board—a debt raised for works chiefly to benefit the Borough of Christchurch.

Rating in town and road districts.

The property in the various town districts is not rated on a uniform system. In the majority the rate is levied on the total value of the property, in the others on the net annual value; but in the road districts the rate is levied on the total value.

The estimated total value of properties in the first-mentioned town districts at the end of the year was 1,690,396*l.*; and the net annual value of properties in the rest of the districts was 59,187*l.* The total value of the rateable properties in the road districts was

45,816,780*l.* In each case the values of rateable Crown and native lands are included; these amounted to 3,051,476*l.* of the total values of rateable property, and 1,242*l.* of annual values. Excluding the Crown and unoccupied rateable native lands, the values of the rateable properties in the Colony in each of the years ending in March 1886, 1887, and 1888 were as follow :—

Value of rateable property in Colony.

	31st March 1886.		31st March 1887.		31st March 1888.	
	Rated on Total Value.	Rated on Annual Value.	Rated on Total Value.	Rated on Annual Value.	Rated on Total Value.	Rated on Annual Value.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
In counties not in road districts - - -	17,329,931	—	18,196,760	—	20,277,043	—
In road districts of counties	45,777,635	—	44,226,708	—	42,826,126	—
In town districts - -	1,596,702	58,483	1,734,846	50,908	1,629,574	57,945
In boroughs - - -	—	2,260,765	—	2,302,502	2,052,063	2,166,005
Totals - - -	64,704,268	2,319,248	64,458,314	2,353,410	66,784,806	2,223,950

Assuming that the capital value is worth 16 times the net annual value (it should be worth more, for, as has been previously remarked, the net annual value should be increased by from 11 to 25 per cent., according to whether the property consists of lands or houses, in order to arrive at the full annual value), the total value of all rateable property, excepting Crown and unoccupied native lands, in each of the three past years would be as follows :—

Year.	Value of Properties rated on Basis of Total Value	Annual Value of Properties rated on that Basis.	Annual Value capitalised by multiplying by 16.	Total Value of Rateable Property in Colony, except Crown and Native Lands.
	£	£	£	£
1885-86 - - - -	64,704,268	2,319,248	37,108,168	101,812,436
1886-87 - - - -	64,458,314	2,353,410	37,654,560	102,112,874
1887-88 - - - -	66,784,806	2,223,950	35,583,200	102,368,006

There was thus an increase in value of 300,438*l.* in 1886–87 on the value for the previous year, and in 1887–88 an increase of 255,132*l.* on the value brought out for 1886–87.

The total revenue of the town districts amounted to 17,174*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, of which the receipts from rates amounted to 5,671*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, and those from the General Government to 2,907*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*

The total revenue of the road boards was 176,504*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*, of which rates yielded 83,313*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* The receipts by these bodies from the General Government amounted to 72,023*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*

The total expenditure of the town districts was 18,076*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, of which the sum of 11,191*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* was spent on public works,

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and 3,158*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* on management. The expenditure of the road boards was 176,342*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*, of which the sum of 126,107*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* was spent on public works, and 18,586*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* on management.

The total revenue of all the river boards, exclusive of the Inch-Clutha board, which is also a road board, amounted to 13,329*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, of which the sum of 6,698*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* was obtained by rates.

There was only one drainage board—that for the Christchurch District. The revenue for the year amounted to 21,095*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, nearly all from rates.

Taxation by local bodies.

The amount of direct taxation imposed on the people by these local bodies, on account of rates levied, amounted to 433,831*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* for the year, being on an average 14*s.* 6½*d.* per head of the mean population.

Indebtedness of harbour boards.

The total revenue of the harbour boards for the year 1887 was 273.488*l*, 12*s.* 8*d.*, of which the sum of 20,210*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* was received from the General Government. The loan indebtedness of these boards at the end of 1887 amounted to 3,006,900*l.* against a similar indebtedness at the end of 1886 of 2,887,700*l.*

The outstanding loans of the above local bodies at the end of their respective last financial years were as follow :—

	Amount of outstanding Loans.
	£
Counties, on 31st March 1888 -	14,282
Boroughs, on 31st March 1888 -	2,527,353
Town District Boards, on 31st March 1888 - - - -	2,383
Road Boards, on 31st March 1888 -	13,500
River Boards, on 31st March 1888 -	48,385
Christchurch Drainage Board, on 31st December 1887 - - -	200,000
Harbour Boards, on 31st December, 1887 - - - - -	3,006,900
Total amount of loan indebtedness -	5,812,803

Defence and Police.

Permanent Militia.

The New Zealand Permanent Force is divided into four branches, viz., Artillery, Engineer, Torpedo, and Rifle. The aggregate strength of the force on the 31st December 1887 consisted of 340 of all ranks. Of these,—

The Artillery Branch consisted of 6 commissioned and 18 non-commissioned officers, and 140 rank and file.

The Engineer Branch consisted of 1 non-commissioned officer and 19 rank and file.

The Torpedo Branch consisted of 4 commissioned and 5 non-commissioned officers, and 41 rank and file.

The Rifle Branch consisted of 6 commissioned officers, 13 non-commissioned officers, and 87 rank and file.

There was a decrease during the year of eight in the total strength of the force.

Police.

The strength of the police force at the end of 1887 was 493 of all ranks, being a decrease of 11 on the number at the end of 1886. The force consisted of 18 commissioned officers, 69 non-commissioned officers, and 406 rank and file.

Volunteers.

The number of volunteer corps in the Colony at the end of 1887 was 194, having an aggregate strength of 11,355 of all ranks, against 188 corps, with a strength of 11,204, at the end of 1886.

The number of cadet corps increased from 43 to 47, and the aggregate strength from 2,639 to 2,936. There was an increase of 1 in the number and 27 in the strength of the Cavalry corps, but a decrease of 76 in the strength of the Naval Artillery and of 26 in the Field Artillery corps. There was an increase of 1 in the number but a decrease of 79 in the strength of the rifle corps.

Fire Brigades.

There were 59 fire brigades in the Colony in December 1887, having an aggregate strength of 190 officers and 1,006 men. This was an increase of 2 brigades, of 8 officers, and a decrease of 6 men on the respective numbers at the end of the previous year.

Life Assurance Companies.

There were eight life assurance companies doing business in the Colony in 1887, in addition to the Life Insurance Department of the New Zealand Government.

Decrease of business in 1887.

The aggregate number of policies issued in the Colony during the year by these companies and the Government Insurance Department was 8,370, representing an aggregate amount insured of 1,864,452*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* This was a decrease as compared with results for 1886 of 782 in the number of policies, and of 439,229*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* in the amount insured.

The Equitable Insurance Association issued the largest number of policies, 2,150, but the amount insured by them was only 58,333*l.*, averaging about 27*l.* for each policy. The New Zealand Government Life Insurance did the largest business, having issued 1,980 policies, representing the total sum of 543,742*l.*, being an average of 274·61*l.* for each policy. The Australian Mutual Provident Society issued 1,781 policies for 505,184*l.*, the average amount for each policy being 283*l.* 13*s.*

The number of existing policies at the end of the year which had been taken out in the Colony was 50,383, and the gross amount insured by them was 14,257,353*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*, being an average of 283*l.* for each policy. Of these policies, 25,439, representing the amount of 6,831,933*l.*, were issued by the New Zealand Government Insurance Department, and 14,248, representing the insured amount of 4,598,821*l.*, by the Australian Mutual Provident Society.

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The total revenue on New Zealand life assurance business during the year was 577,227*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, of which the sum of 60,966*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* was received on account of new premiums and 359,510*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* on account of renewals. The interest credited to the revenue amounted to 133,390*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*

Of the total revenue, the amount of 268,372*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* (of which the sum of 24,665*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* was on account of new premiums, and 174,163*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* on account of renewals) was received by the New Zealand Government Life Insurance Department. The revenue of the Australian Mutual Provident Society amounted to 212,773*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*, which included 16,784*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* from new premiums, and 125,354*l.* 19*s.* from renewals.

Receipts from premiums for 1887 compared with those for 1886.

Compared with the New Zealand business in 1886, that in 1887 showed an increase on the receipts from new premiums to the extent of 4,491*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, and from renewals to the extent of 11,231*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* The total revenue in 1887 was greater by 44,023*l.* The existing policies at the end of 1887 were in the proportion of 1 to every 12 persons at all ages, and of 10 to every 56 adult persons of both sexes.

The total expenditure during the year in respect of New Zealand business amounted to 327,497*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, of which the payments on account of claims amounted to 119,702*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* The payments on account of surrenders reached the sum of 49,798*l.* 7*s.*, being in excess of similar payments in 1886 by 9,445*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*

The management expenses during the year amounted to 118,077*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*, being at the rate of 20·46 per cent. on the year's revenue, against a similar per-centage in 1886 of 21·69.

The following shows the proportion per cent. of expenses to revenue in the New Zealand business for the several insurance companies in the years 1886 and 1887:—

	Revenue in 1887.	Expenses in 1887.	Per-centage of Expenses to Revenue.	
			1887.	1886.
	£	£		
Australian Mutual Provident Society	212,733	24,987	11·74	13·66
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited)	14,567	9,770	67·08	80·26
Equitable Insurance Association of New Zealand	2,281	1,810	79·35	79·89
Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States	20,665	7,370	35·67	43·02
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Limited)	10,039	6,339	63·14	65·33
Mutual Life Association of Australasia	20,001	10,076	50·37	44·53
National Mutual Life Association of Australasia (Limited)	20,528	8,441	41·12	45·61
New York Insurance Company	8,038	2,463	30·64	*
New Zealand Government Life Insurance Department	268,372	46,818	17·45	17·23

* Not in operation.

In those societies which have not been long in operation in the Colony, and of which the business is as yet of a limited character, the expenses would necessarily absorb an abnormally large proportion of the revenue.

WM. R. E. BROWN,
Registrar General.

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APPENDIX.

Date of some of the Principal Events in the History of New Zealand.

Dec. 13, 1642.—Discovery of New Zealand by Abel Jansen Tasman.

Oct. 8, 1769.—Captain Cook landed at Poverty Bay on his first visit.

1814.—First arrival of Rev. Mr. Marsden at Bay of Islands, and introduction of Christianity. Horses, oxen, sheep, and poultry first brought to the Colony.

1823. 1828. Acts passed by the Imperial Parliament extending the jurisdiction of the Courts of Justice in New South Wales to all British subjects in New Zealand.

1825.—First attempt at colonisation by an expedition under the command of Captain Herd, who bought two islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

1827.—Destruction of mission station at Wangaroa by Hongi's forces.

1831.—Application of 13 Chiefs for the protection of King William the Fourth.

1833.—Mr. Busby appointed British Resident, to live at the Bay of Islands.

1835.—Declaration of Independence of the whole of New Zealand as one nation, with the title of "The United Tribes of New Zealand."

1838.—The Roman Catholic Bishop Pompallier, with several priests, arrived at Hokianga.

May 12, 1839.—Departure of the preliminary expedition of the New Zealand Company from England.

June 1839.—Issue of letters patent authorising the Governor of New South Wales to include within the limits of that Colony any territory that might be acquired in sovereignty by Her Majesty in New Zealand.

Aug. 1839.—Arrival in New Zealand of preliminary expedition of New Zealand Company.

Sept. 16, 1839.—First body of New Zealand Company's emigrants sailed from Gravesend.

Jan. 22, 1840.—Arrival of first body of immigrants at Port Nicholson.

Jan. 29, 1840.—Captain Hobson, R.N., landed at the Bay of Islands. On landing he hoisted the Union flag and read the Proclamation declaring New Zealand to be a British Colony and a dependency of New South Wales; also his own commission as Lieutenant-Governor over territory that might be acquired in sovereignty.

Feb. 5, 1840.—Date of Treaty of Waitangi.

May 21, 1840.—Date on which the Proclamation of sovereignty over the North Island was to take effect.

June 17, 1840.—Date of the Proclamation of sovereignty over the Middle and Stewart Islands.

The British flag was hoisted at Akaroa, and the sovereignty of Great Britain formally proclaimed, shortly before the arrival of the French frigate "L'Aube" and the vessel "Comte de Paris," with immigrants, to establish a French Colony.

Sept. 19, 1840.—The British flag hoisted at Auckland. The Lieutenant-Governor's residence established there.

1840.—Formation of Wanganui Settlement: the name "Petre."

Feb. 12, 1841.—Issue of charter of incorporation to the New Zealand Company.

Mar. 31, 1841.—Arrival of first New Plymouth settlers.

May 3, 1841.—New Zealand proclaimed to be independent of New South Wales.

Oct. 1841.—Formation of settlement at Nelson.

May 29, 1842.—Arrival of Bishop Selwyn in the Colony.

Sept. 10, 1842.—Death of Governor Hobson, Dr. Shortland acting Governor till arrival of Captain FitzRoy.

June 1843.—Affray with natives at the Wairau, and massacre by Rangihaeata of Captain Wakefield, R.N., agent at Nelson of the New Zealand Company, and others who had surrendered.

Dec. 1, 1843.—Arrival of Captain FitzRoy, R.N., as Governor.

Aug. 1844.—The Royal flagstaff at Kororareka cut down by Heke.

Mar. 10, 1845.—Attack on and destruction of town of Kororareka by Heke.

Sept. 1845.—Receipt of notification of recall of Governor FitzRoy.

Nov. 14, 1845.—Arrival of Captain Grey as Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony from South Australia.

Jan. 1846.—Capture of Pa at Ruapekapeka, Bay of Islands, and termination of Heke's war.

Mar. 1846.—Commencement of native disturbances in the Hutt Valley, near Wellington.

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May 16, 1846.—Attack by natives on a military outpost in the Hutt Valley.

July 1846.—Capture of Te Rauparaha at Porirua, near Wellington; he was detained for a year as prisoner on board a ship of war.

Aug. 28, 1846.—The New Zealand Government Act passed by the Imperial Parliament, under which a charter was issued dividing the Colony into two provinces and granting representative institutions.

May 19, 1847.—Attack by natives on settlement of Wanganui.

Nov. 1847.—Arrival of Mr. E. J. Eyre, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Munster.

Jan. 1, 1848.—Captain Grey sworn in as Governor-in-Chief over the Islands of New Zealand, also as Governor of the Province of New Ulster, and Governor of the Province of New Munster.

Jan. 3, 1848.—Major-General Pitt appointed by Governor Grey to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Ulster.

Feb. 21, 1848.—Peace ratified at Wanganui.

Mar. 7, 1848.—Suspension by Imperial statute of that part of the New Zealand Government Act which had conferred representative institutions.

Mar. 1848.—Otago founded by a Scotch company under the auspices of the Free Church of Scotland.

Oct. 1848.—Severe earthquake at Wellington.

July 1850.—Surrender of the New Zealand Company's charter, all its interests in the Colony reverting to the Imperial Government.

Dec. 1850.—Canterbury founded by the Canterbury Association in connexion with the Church of England.

Jan. 8, 1851.—Death of Major-General Pitt, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Ulster.

April 14, 1851.—Lieut.-Colonel Wynyard appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Ulster.

1852.—Discovery of gold at Coromandel by Mr. Charles Ring.

June 30, 1852.—The Constitution Act passed by the Imperial Parliament, granting representative institutions to the Colony, and subdividing it into six provinces.

Jan. 1853.—Promulgation of the Constitution Act.

Mar. 7, 1853.—Assumption by Sir George Grey, K.C.B., of the duties of Governor of the Colony in terms of the appointment after the passing of the New Zealand Constitution Act, and cessation of the duties of the Lieutenant-Governors of New Ulster and New Munster.

Dec. 31, 1853.—Departure of Governor Sir George Grey.
Jan. 3, 1854.—Lieut.-Colonel Wynyard assumed the administration of the Government.
May 27, 1854.—Opening at Auckland of the first session of the General Assembly by Lieutenant-Colonel Wynyard, Administrator of the Government.
Jan. 1855.—Very severe earthquake on each side of Cook Strait.
Sept. 6, 1855.—Arrival of Governor Colonel T. Gore Browne, C.B.
May 7, 1856.—Appointment of the first Ministry under the system of Responsible Government, under Mr. Sewell, Colonial Secretary.
May 14, 1856.—Defeat of Mr. Sewell's Ministry.
May 20, 1856.—Appointment of a Ministry under presidency of Mr. W. Fox as Attorney-General.
May 28, 1856.—Defeat of Mr. Fox's Ministry, by a majority of one, on a direct vote of want of confidence.
June 2, 1856.—Appointment of a Ministry under the presidency of Mr. Stafford.
1857.—First payable goldfield in the Colony opened at Collingwood, in the Nelson Province.
Nov. 1, 1858.—Establishment of the Province of Hawke's Bay.
March 1859.—Te Teira offered land at Waitara for sale to the Government.
Nov. 1, 1859.—Establishment of the Province of Marlborough.
Mar. 1860.—Commencement of hostilities against Wiremu Kingi te Rangitake at Waitara.
Mar. 18, 1860.—Capture of Maori Pa at Waitara.
Mar. 28, 1860.—Engagement at Waireka.
June 27, 1860.—Engagement of Puketakauere at Waitara.
Nov. 6, 1860.—Defeat at Mahoetahi, with heavy loss, of a force of Waikato natives who had crossed the Waitara river to join Wiremu Kingi.
Dec. 31, 1860.—Capture of the Matarikoriko Pa and defeat of a large body of Waikato natives.
Jan. 23, 1861.—The natives made a determined attack on the redoubt at Huirangi, occupied by Imperial troops, and were repulsed with heavy loss.
April 1, 1861.—Establishment of Province of Southland.
May 21, 1861.—A truce agreed to.
May 1861.—Discovery of gold at Gabriel's Gully, Otago.
July 5, 1861.—Defeat of Mr. Stafford's Ministry, by a majority of one, on a vote of want of confidence.
July 12, 1861.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Mr. Fox.
July 29, 1861.—Incorporation of the Bank of New Zealand.
Sept. 26, 1861.—Arrival of Sir George Grey, K.C.B., at Auckland from the Cape Colony, to succeed Governor Gore Browne. Sir George Grey was sworn in as Governor on the 3rd October.

NEW ZEALAND. Oct. 2, 1861.—Departure of Governor Gore Browne.

June 28, 1862.—Coromandel proclaimed a goldfield.

July 28, 1862.—Defeat of Mr. Fox's Ministry by the casting vote of the Speaker, on a proposed resolution in favour of placing the ordinary conduct of native affairs under the administration of the Responsible Ministers.

Aug. 6, 1862.—Appointment of a Ministry under the leadership of Mr. Alfred Domett.

Feb. 7, 1863.—Wreck of H.M.S. "Orpheus" on Manukau bar; 181 lives lost.

Feb. 26, 1863.—Definite relinquishment by the Imperial Government of control over administration of native affairs.

May 4, 1863.—Treacherous assault near Tataraimaka by natives on a military escort. Murder of Lieutenant Tragett, Dr. Hope, and five soldiers of the 57th Regiment.

June 4, 1863.—Defeat of natives at Katikara by a force under Lieut.-General Cameron.

July 17, 1863.—Action at Koheroa, in the Auckland Province. Commencement of the Waikato war.

Oct. 27, 1863.—Resignation of the Domett Ministry in consequence of difficulties experienced in connexion with arrangements for finding a fitting representative of the Government in the Legislative Council.

Oct. 30, 1863.—Appointment of the Ministry formed by Mr. Fox, under the premiership of Mr. F. Whitaker.

Nov. 1863.—Acceptance by the General Assembly of colonial responsibility in native affairs.

Nov. 20, 1863.—Battle at Rangiriri. Defeat of natives and unconditional surrender of 183.

Dec. 1, 1863.—The first railway in New Zealand opened for traffic by W. S. Moorhouse, Superintendent of Canterbury. The line was from Christchurch to Ferrymead Junction.

Dec. 3, 1863.—The New Zealand Settlements Act passed, giving the Governor power to confiscate the lands of insurgent natives.

Dec. 8, 1863.—Occupation of Ngaruawahia. The British flag hoisted on the Maori King's flagstaff.

Feb. 11, 1864.—Engagement with natives on Mangapiko river. Major (then Captain) Heaphy, of the New Zealand Forces, won the Victoria Cross for distinguished bravery on this occasion.

Feb. 22, 1864.—Defeat of natives at Rangiaohia.

April 2, 1864.—Attack on and capture of Pa at Orakau, Waikato.

April 21, 1864.—Engagement near Maketu, Bay of Plenty. Tribes of the Rawhiti defeated by Arawa natives under Captain McDonnell.

April 29, 1864.—Assault on Gate Pa, Tauranga, Bay of Plenty, and repulse of large British force by the Maoris. The Pa was abandoned by the natives during the following night.

April 30, 1864.—Repulse of attack by rebel Hauhau natives on redoubt at Sentry Hill, Taranaki.

May 14, 1864.—Battle of Moutoa, an island in the Wanganui river, between friendly and rebel Hauhau natives. Complete defeat of rebels.

June 21, 1864.—Engagement at Te Ranga, near Tauranga, by Lieut.-Colonel Greer, 68th Regiment. Heavy defeat of the natives.

1864.—Discovery of gold on the west coast of the Middle Island.

Sept. 10, 1864.—Escape of Maori prisoners from Kawau.

Nov. 24, 1864.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Mr. F. A. Weld, the Whitaker-Fox Ministry having resigned during the recess.

Dec. 17, 1864.—Confiscation of native lands in Waikato by Sir George Grey.

Feb. 1865.—Removal of the seat of Government to Wellington.

Mar. 2, 1865.—Barbarous murder of the Rev. Mr. Volkner, a Church of England missionary at Opotiki, by Hauhau fanatics, under Kereopa.

June 8, 1865.—Submission of the Maori Chief Wiremu Tamihana te Waharoa (William Thompson).

June 17, 1865.—Murder of Mr. Fulloon, a Government officer, and his companions at Whakatane, by Hauhau fanatics.

July 22, 1865.—Capture of the Wereroa Pa, near Wanganui.

Aug. 2, 1865.—Assault and capture of the Pa Kairomiromi, at Waiapu, by Colonial forces under Captain Frazer, and native contingent under the Chief Te Mokena. Eighty-seven rebels killed.

Sept. 2, 1865.—Proclamation of peace issued by Governor Sir George Grey, announcing that the war which commenced at Oakura was at an end.

Sept. 30, 1865.—Murder by Hauhaus, at Kakaramea, of Mr. Broughton, when sent as a friendly messenger to them by Brigadier-General Waddy.

Oct. 12, 1865.—Resignation of Mr. Weld's Ministry, on account of a resolution adverse to the Government policy having been defeated only by the casting vote of the Speaker.

Oct. 16, 1865.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Mr. E. W. Stafford.

NEW ZEALAND.

Dec. 25, 1865.—Defeat of rebel natives at Wairoa, Hawke's Bay, by Colonial forces and native contingent.

Jan. 4, 1866.—Defeat of natives at Okotuku Pa, on the west coast of the North Island, by force under Major-General Chute.

Jan. 7, 1866.—Assault on, and capture of, Putahi Pa, by force under Major-General Chute.

Jan. 13, 1866.—Assault on, and capture of, Otapawa Pa, by force under Major-General Chute.

Jan. 17, 1866, to Jan. 25, 1866.—Period of Major-General Chute's march through the bush to New Plymouth.

Jan. 1866.—Escape of a large number of native prisoners from the hulk at Wellington; many were drowned in trying to swim ashore.

Mar. 29, 1866.—Submission of the rebel Chiefs Te Heuheu and Herekiekie, of Taupo District.

Mar. 1866.—A detachment of Maori prisoners sent to the Chatham Islands.

June 15, 1866.—Commencement of Panama steam mail service.

Aug. 26, 1866.—The Cook Strait submarine telegraph cable laid.

Oct. 2, 1866.—Engagement with rebel natives at Pungarehu, West Coast, by Colonial forces, under Major McDonnell.

Oct. 8, 1866.—First Act passed to impose stamp duties.

Oct. 12, 1866.—Defeats of rebel natives at Omaranui and at Petane, Hawke's Bay, by Colonial forces.

Oct. 10, 1867.—An Act passed to establish an Institute for the Promotion of Science and Art in the Colony.

Oct. 10, 1867.—An Act passed for the division of the Colony into four Maori electorates, and the admission of four Maori members to the House of Representatives.

Jan. 1868.—Establishment of the county of Westland.

Feb. 5, 1868.—Arrival of Governor Sir George F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.

July 4, 1868.—Seizure by Maori prisoners, under the leadership of Te Kooti, of the schooner "Rifleman," and their escape from the Chatham Islands.

July 12, 1868.—Night attack by natives on redoubt at Turuturu Mokai. Sub-Inspector Ross and seven Europeans killed. Natives driven off by the arrival of a force under Major Von Tempsky.

Aug. 8, 1868.—Pursuit by Lieut.-Colonel Whitmore of escaped Chatham Island prisoners, and indecisive engagement in the gorge of the Ruake Ture.

Aug. 21, 1868.—Attack on Ngutu-o-te Manu by force under Lieut.-Colonel McDonnell. Defeat of natives: four Europeans killed and eight wounded.

Sept. 7, 1868.—Engagement in bush at Ngutu-o-te Manu. Major Von Tempsky, Captains Buck and Palmer, Lieutenants Hunter and Hastings, and 14 men killed.

Nov. 7, 1868.—Attack on Moturoa. Repulse of colonial forces with severe loss.

Nov. 10, 1868.—Massacre of 32 Europeans at Poverty Bay by Te Kooti's band of natives who had escaped from the Chatham Islands.

Nov. 24, 1868. } Engagements between friendly natives and
Dec. 3, 1868. } rebels under Te Kooti, at Patutahi, Poverty
Dec. 5, 1868. } Bay District.

Jan. 5, 1869.—Assault on, and capture of, Ngatapa Pa, Poverty Bay District, after a siege of six days by the colonial forces of Europeans and friendly natives. Dispersion and pursuit of Te Kooti's band. More than 136 rebel natives were killed.

Feb. 13, 1869.—Treacherous murder of the Rev. John Whitely and seven other Europeans at the White Cliffs, Taranaki.

Feb. 18, 1869.—Attack by rebel natives on a foraging party at Karaka Flat; one sergeant and six men killed.

Mar. 3, 1869.—Termination of Panama mail service.

Mar. 13, 1869.—Attack on, and defeat of, Titokowaru's force at Otauto.

April 10, 1869.—Native Pa at Mohaka taken by Te Kooti, who killed 40 friendly natives and several Europeans in the neighbourhood.

April 12, 1869.—First arrival of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh in Wellington, in H.M.S. "Galatea."

May 6, 1869.—Surprise and capture of Ahikereru and Oamaru Teangi Pas, Weiwera country. Defeat of Te Kooti.

June 13, 1869.—Surrender to Major Noake and Mr. Booth, R.M., of the Chief Tairua, with 122 men, women, and children of the Pakakohe tribe, near Wanganui.

June 24, 1869.—Defeat of Mr. Stafford's Ministry on a want of confidence motion.

June 28, 1869.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Mr. W. Fox.

Oct. 1869.—74 prisoners from the bands of Te Kooti and Titokowaru sentenced to death after trial for treason. The sentences of 73 were commuted to penal servitude for various terms.

1870.—300 friendly natives under Topia, and 300 under Major Kepa (known as Kemp), started up the Wanganui river in pursuit of Te Kooti, who retreated into the Urewera country.

NEW ZEALAND.

Jan. 25, 1870.—Capture of Tapapa Pa, occupied by Te Kooti.

Feb. 24, 1870.—The last detachment of the Imperial troops left the Colony.

Mar. 25, 1870.—Major Kepa, with native force, captured the position held by Te Kooti at Maraetahi, in Urewera country; 19 rebels killed and 73 of Te Kooti's men taken prisoners. Te Kooti escaped with 20 followers.

Mar. 26, 1870.—Commencement of San Francisco mail service.

June 28, 1870.—Enunciation in the House of Representatives of the public-works policy by the Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Vogel.

July 1870.—30 prisoners of Te Kooti's band sentenced to death. The sentences were commuted to penal servitude.

Aug. 27, 1870.—Arrival in Wellington of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, in H.M.S. "Galatea"—second visit.

Sept. 12, 1870.—An Act passed to establish the New Zealand University.

Sept. 12, 1870.—The Land Transfer Act passed, to simplify the title to land and dealings with real estates.

Oct. 6, 1870.—Southland Province re-united with Otago.

Dec. 5, 1870.—Honiani te Puni, the Chief of the Ngatiawas, a staunch friend of the Europeans, died at Pitone, near Wellington, aged 90 years.

Mar. 1871.—Commencement of railway construction under the public works-policy.

Aug. 4, 1871.—Death of Tamati Waka Nene, the great Ngapuhe Chief and friend of the Europeans.

Nov. 1871.—Capture of the notorious rebel Kereopa, the murderer of the Rev. Mr. Volkner, by the Ngatiporous.

Jan. 5, 1872.—Execution of Kereopa at Napier.

Jan. 1872.—Remission of sentences on 58 native prisoners then undergoing imprisonment for rebellion.

Feb. 22, 1872.—Visit of William King, the Maori Chief of Waitara, to New Plymouth, and resumption of amicable relations with the Europeans.

May 9, 1872.—A general thanksgiving day for the recovery of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Sept. 6, 1872.—Defeat and resignation of Mr. Fox's Ministry.

Sept. 10, 1872.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of the Hon. E. W. Stafford.

Oct. 4, 1872.—Defeat of the Stafford Ministry on a vote of want of confidence moved by Mr. Vogel.

Oct. 11, 1872.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of the Hon. G. M. Waterhouse, M.L.C.

Oct. 11, 1872.—First appointment of Maori Chiefs (two) to be members of the Legislative Council.

Oct. 25, 1872.—The Public Trust Office Act passed.

Jan. 1873.—Establishment of the New Zealand Shipping Company.

Mar. 3, 1873.—The Hon. W. Fox appointed Premier on the resignation of that office by the Hon. G. M. Waterhouse; the other members of the Ministry being confirmed in their offices.

Mar. 19, 1873.—Departure of Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.

Mar. 21, 1873.—Assumption of the Government by Sir G. A. Arney, Chief Justice, as Administrator.

April 8, 1873.—Resignation of the premiership by the Hon. W. Fox on the return of the Hon. J. Vogel, C.M.G., from Australia. Appointment of Mr. Vogel as Premier; the other Ministers being confirmed in their offices.

June 14, 1873.—Arrival of Governor Sir J. Fergusson, P.C.

Aug. 22, 1874.—The Imprisonment for Debt Abolition Act passed.

Dec. 3, 1874.—Arrival of Governor the Marquis of Normanby, P.C.

1874.—31,774 immigrants were introduced this year under the immigration and public-works policy.

Jan. 3, 1875.—Visit of Sir Donald McLean to the Maori King; resumption of amicable relations.

July 6, 1875.—Resignation of the Ministry in consequence of the absence of Sir J. Vogel, K.C.M.G., in England, and his being unable to attend the session of Parliament. Re-constitution thereof under the premiership of the Hon. Dr. Pollen, M.L.C.

July 1875.—Establishment of the Union Steam Shipping Company of New Zealand.

1875.—18,324 immigrants were introduced this year under the immigration and public-works policy.

Oct. 12, 1875.—The Abolition of Provinces Act passed.

Feb. 15, 1876.—Resignation of the Hon. Dr. Pollen's Ministry, and re-constitution under the premiership of Sir J. Vogel, K.C.M.G.

Feb. 18, 1876.—Completion of the work of laying the telegraph cable between New Zealand and New South Wales.

June 1876.—Death of Dr. Isaac Earl Featherston while acting as Agent General for the Colony in England. He was the first to hold that office, and had been Superintendent of the Province of Wellington during the whole time of the existence of provincial representative institutions.

NEW ZEALAND.

Sept. 1, 1876.—Resignation of Sir J. Vogel's Ministry in view of the appointment of Sir J. Vogel as Agent-General. Formation of a Ministry under the premiership of Major Atkinson.

Sept. 13, 1876.—Resignation of Major Atkinson's Ministry in consequence of doubts being entertained as to the constitutional position thereof. Re-construction of the Ministry under the premiership of Major Atkinson.

Nov. 1, 1876.—"The Abolition of Provinces Act, 1875," came into full operation. Complete abolition of provincial institutions. The Colony sub-divided into counties and municipal boroughs.

Oct. 8, 1877.—Defeat of the Atkinson Ministry on a vote of want of confidence moved by Mr. Larnach.

Oct. 15, 1877.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Sir George Grey, K.C.B.

Nov. 29, 1877.—The Education Act, providing for the free and compulsory education of children, passed.

Feb. 29, 1879.—Departure of Governor the Marquis of Normanby.

Mar. 1879.—Removal of surveyors from the Waimate plains by natives acting under Te Whiti's orders.

Mar. 27, 1879.—Arrival of Governor Sir Hercules G. R. Robinson, G.C.M.G.

May 25, 1879.—The natives from Parihaka, by order of Te Whiti, began ploughing up lands occupied by Europeans.

June 1879.—Arrest of 180 of these natives for causing disturbances.

Oct. 3, 1879.—Defeat of Sir George Grey's Ministry.

Oct. 8, 1879.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of the Hon. John Hall.

Dec. 19, 1879.—An Act passed to assess property for the purpose of taxation.

Dec. 19, 1879.—The Triennial Parliament Act passed.

Dec. 19, 1879.—An Act passed to qualify every resident male of 21 years of age and upwards to vote.

June 1880.—First portion of the Maori prisoners released by the Government.

Sept. 8, 1880.—Departure of Governor Sir Hercules G. R. Robinson, G.C.M.G.

Oct. 1880.—Release of the last portion of the Maori prisoners.

Nov. 29, 1880.—Arrival of Governor Sir A. H. Gordon, G.C.M.G

Nov. 5, 1881.—March of force of constabulary and volunteers on Parihaka, and arrest of Te Whiti and Tohu without bloodshed.

April 21, 1882.—Resignation (during the recess) of the Hon. J. Hall's Ministry, and its reconstruction under the premiership of the Hon. F. Whitaker, M.L.C.

June 23, 1882.—Departure of Governor Sir A. H. Gordon.

June 24, 1882.—Assumption of the Government by Sir J. Prendergast, Chief Justice.

1882.—Frozen meat first exported in this year.

Jan. 20, 1883.—Arrival of Governor Sir W. F. D. Jervois, G.C.M.G., C.B.

Jan. 26, 1883.—A direct line of steam communication between England and New Zealand inaugurated by the New Zealand Shipping Company.

Feb. 13, 1883.—Proclamation of amnesty to Maori political offenders.

Feb. 19, 1883.—Liberation of Te Whiti and Tohu.

Sept. 25, 1883.—Resignation of the office of Premier and his seat in the Ministry by the Hon. F. Whitaker, and the appointment of the Hon. Major H. A. Atkinson to be Premier; the members of Mr. Whitaker's Ministry being confirmed in their offices.

June 11, 1884.—Defeat of Major Atkinson's Government.

June 27, 1884.—Dissolution of the General Assembly.

Aug. 16, 1884.—Resignation of Major Atkinson's Ministry in consequence of the result of the general election. Formation of a Ministry under the premiership of Mr. Robert Stout.

Aug. 20, 1884.—Defeat of Mr. Stout's Ministry by an amendment, expressive of want of confidence, to the address in reply being carried.

Aug. 28, 1884.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Major Atkinson.

Aug. 29, 1884.—Defeat of Major Atkinson's Ministry on a vote of want of confidence.

Sept. 3, 1884.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Mr. Robert Stout.

Nov. 8, 1884.—An Act passed to enable certain loans of the New Zealand Government to be converted into inscribed stock and the accrued sinking funds released.

June 10, 1886.—Volcanic eruptions at Tarawera, and destruction of the famed Pink and White Terraces.

May 28, 1887.—Defeat of Sir Robert Stout's Ministry

July 15, 1887.—Dissolution of the General Assembly after prorogation on the 10th June.

July 21, 1887.—A Proclamation issued declaring the Kermadec Islands to be annexed to, and form part of, the Colony of New Zealand.

Oct. 8, 1887.—Appointment of a Ministry under the premiership of Major H. A. Atkinson, Sir R. Stout's Ministry having resigned in consequence of the result of the election.

NEW ZEALAND. Dec. 23, 1887.—The Australian Naval Defence Act, being an Act to provide for the establishment of an additional naval force on the Australian station, at the joint charge of the Imperial and the several Colonial Governments, was passed by the New Zealand Legislature.

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The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
5	New Zealand	1886
6	Tobago	1887
7	Gibraltar	,,
8	Gold Coast (Governor's visit to the Eastern Districts)	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	British Bechuanaland	,,
44	Victoria	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

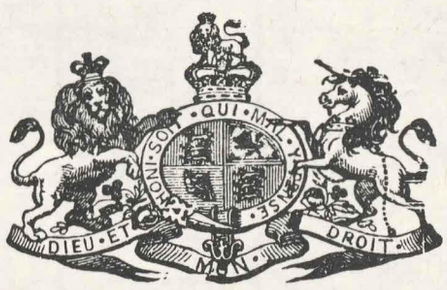
No. 58.

S T. H E L E N A.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 18.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1889.



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10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turks Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turks Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falklands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,

No. 58.

ST. HELENA.

Administrator GREY-WILSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

The Castle, St. Helena,
May 1, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the St. Helena Blue Book for 1888, and my report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. GREY-WILSON,
Administering the Government.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1888.

Taxes, Duties.

The taxes, duties, and fees have undergone no change since 1882.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue was 9,265*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, exclusive of 2,275*l.* Grant-in-aid, making a total revenue of 11,540*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure was 10,448*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* leaving a surplus of 1,092*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* The revenue exceeded the estimate by 354*l.*, and the expenditure fell below the estimate by 818*l.* This saving was partly owing to a re-construction of the civil establishment, whereby the Officer administering the government performed the duties of Chief Justice, Colonial Secretary, Receiver-General, and engineer without salary, partly to a stringent suppression of incidental expenses and to the employment of the marine and sanitary staff upon general service and partly to the importation by the government of all stores and materials required for the public service. The expenditure, moreover, includes a sum of 166*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* stolen from the savings bank in April and 45*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* expenses incurred in the capture and extradition from the Cape of the fugitive offender.

The revenue was 497*l.* more, and the expenditure 934*l.* less, than in 1887.

ST. HELENA.

The customs revenue was 1,251*l.* in excess of 1887, and the other items show little variation, but the grant-in-aid was 725*l.* below the previous year, due to the variation in the colonial and Imperial financial years.

On the 1st of January 1886 the land revenue and taxes were in arrears 361*l.* and at the close of this year 13*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* only was outstanding.

Public Debt.

The debt at the end of the year was 3,250*l.* in debentures at 7 per cent. 1,000*l.* having been paid off during the year a sum of 5,158*l.* is also due to the Imperial treasury, but bears no interest.

The assets of the Colony on the 31st of December were 10,117*l.* and the liabilities, including the loans, were 17,371*l.*; in other words, the financial position as compared with the previous year showed an improvement of 1,875*l.*

The pension list still stands at the very large sum of 2,053*l.*

Military Expenditure.

The garrison consisted of one company of infantry and one battery of artillery, maintained at a cost to the Imperial Government of 21,429*l.* exclusive of meal for bread, grain from Cape, tinned meats, candles and other stores, clothing and accoutrements; the cost of which cannot be locally ascertained. The company of the Royal Scots embarked for the Cape in November and were replaced by a company of the East Yorkshire Regiment from Barbados. Two additional heavy batteries commenced in 1887 were almost completed, and there are now four heavy batteries on the heights overlooking Jamestown and the harbour. The cost of these works, which has been borne entirely by the Imperial Government, is 9,500*l.*, exclusive of the guns and their freight from England.

Public Works.

The repair and restoration of buildings cost 554*l.*, forests and roads 183*l.*, the water supply, including several new dams in the "run," 242*l.* A large amount of work was executed during the year, and nearly all the far too extensive public buildings are now in a satisfactory condition. The local price of teak in the log is 10*s.* per cubic foot, and this prohibitive price rendered it only possible to undertake absolutely indispensable and pressing repairs. I have entirely dispensed with teak and have imported into St. Helena for the first time American cypress, which can be landed on the wharf cut to any size and planed for a trifle under 3*s.* a cubic foot, or less than one fifth the cost of teak similarly worked up. I believe cypress to be a white ant resisting wood, and all the reports I have of it and the very severe tests to which I have caused it to be subjected confirm this view. The Public Works

Department now imports all stores from England through the Crown Agents, with the result of a saving of over 200 per cent. upon the prices charged locally for very many articles in constant and considerable demand, and the enormous saving resulting from these departures has enabled the Government to carry out work very far in excess of that in previous years, and has rendered it possible to renew instead of the costly practice of merely patching. It is needless to state that my action in this matter has not given satisfaction to the local traders affected thereby. The Public Works Department was up to the close of the year 1887 conducted by the Royal Engineer Department, and the creation of the Colonial Establishment has necessitated the expenditure of a very considerable sum upon tools, machinery, and appliances for the various work of the department, but these heavy calls have been much more than neutralized by the reformations above described.

Legislation.

Nine Ordinances were passed.

No. 1. To amend the law of trespass. This measure consolidated and amended the laws in regard to trespass from the year 1838. Most of the early Ordinances were quite inapplicable to the present times and had reference to an entirely different state of the Island and depended very largely upon the existence of inspectors and shepherds, which neither the means at the disposal of the Government nor the wants of the community rendered it expedient to retain. The marking of cattle and swine was a cruel and unnecessary provision while the remedies for damage or trespass upon private grounds were inadequate and difficult of enforcement.

The principle of private grounds under necessary restrictions, the safe custody of bulls, the marking of goats and sheep, and the security of public roads are provided for in this Ordinance.

No. 2. To prevent espionage of military works. In this Ordinance "military works includes any fort, fortification, battery, field "work, or any other work of naval or military defence or offence, "and any naval or military premises"; and no person may sketch, photograph, paint or make any note of any military work, or be in the neighbourhood thereof without permission in writing from the Governor or officer commanding the troops, under a penalty of a fine of 100*l.* or imprisonment for six months.

No. 3. To amend the mode of publication of official documents. This Ordinance declares that the printing by the Government or any authorised printer of any duly attested document shall be a sufficient publication and promulgation thereof, and has secured a considerable saving in the expense of printing.

No. 4. Supplementary expenditure.

No. 5. "An Ordinance to provide for the discharge of duties "attached by Ordinances to officers which have ceased to exist," rendered necessary by the large reduction of the establishment.

ST. HELENA.

No. 6. To levy a rate for lighting the streets of Jamestown ; the surplus of the money raised in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee was expended in erecting lamps throughout the town, and the ratepayers asked that a rate for lighting might be legalized.

No. 7. Provides for the service of the year 1889.

No. 8. Health never came into force but will be slightly amended and re-enacted in 1889.

No. 9. Extends the hours within which marriages may be solemnized or contracted from between 8 a.m. and noon to between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Council.

Colonel L. F. Perry, R.A., arrived in the island on the 28th September, and took command of the troops, consequently replacing Lieut. Col. C. Woodward, R.E., upon the Council.

Civil Establishment.

No changes occurred during the year. The Colonial Engineer Department, re-created at the close of 1887, worked smoothly and satisfactorily and did good work.

Pensions.

No one was pensioned during the year and the pension list declined 150*l.* owing to deaths. The pension list stood on December 31st at 2,053*l.*

Consuls.

Captain James B. Coffin was appointed Consul for the United States of America on the 2nd of July and assumed office on the 27th of August.

Mr. Saul Solomon was appointed Consul for Sweden and Norway on the 1st of November 1888. These were the only changes during the year. Fifteen countries have consular representatives upon the Island.

Population.

The population must still be assumed to be increasing, and may be estimated at 5,300 souls.

Education, Newspapers, &c.

Four Government schools were maintained, and, with the exception of the Infant school did excellent work, as disclosed by the annual Christmas examinations. The progress made was most

marked in the town girl's school, which had fallen to a low ebb during the control of Miss Welch (now pensioned), and to a still lower ebb during the interregnum which occurred before the arrival of Miss Warren from England. The present educational standards would not compare unfavourably with English elementary schools. Besides the Government schools there were seven supported by charitable bequests and local subscriptions and three or four private schools. Excluding these last the number of children on the rolls was 817, or three below the previous year, and the average attendance was good.

Three additional newspapers were started during the year:—the "Church News," for promoting the interests of the Church of England; the "Mosquito," a comic paper; and the "Bug," started to impeach the Government.

Savings Bank.

The amount deposited in the Government Savings Bank on the 31st December was 7,550*l.*, or an increase over the previous year of 1,614*l.*, and the depositors have increased from 84 to 91. The smallness in the number of depositors is accounted for by the very numerous friendly societies, to one or more of which nearly every adult belongs. These societies deposit a portion of their funds in the Savings Bank but appear only as single depositors.

In April the Savings Bank was broken into, and the chest containing 166*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* was carried off. The offender was subsequently extradited from the Cape and sentenced to seven years penal servitude, but only 9*l.* of the amount stolen was recovered.

Imports and Exports.

The imports amounted to 58,564*l.*, the exports to 25,119*l.*, in both of which totals the sum of 20,958*l.* representing whalebone and oil transhipped at this port is included. The imports show an increase of 11,708*l.*, the exports an increase of 11,266*l.* compared with 1887. The chief imports may be valued as follows: Oilman's stores, 3,822*l.*; drapery, 3,693*l.*; rice, 1,776*l.*; sugar, 1,335*l.*; spirits, 1,114*l.*; butter, 1,016*l.*; wine, 1,002*l.*

Shipping.

The number of calling vessels, including 166 boarded by Island boats, "when passing," was 496; and there entered 112,412 tons and cleared 14,751 tons.

Rear-Admiral Sir Walter Hunt Grubbe visited the Island in January in H.M.S. "Raleigh" and the West African Squadron was frequently represented by men-of-war who came to recruit.

ST. HELENA.

Numerous other British and foreign war vessels called at the Island from the East and from South America. The number of calling vessels continues to decrease, as the following table shows:—

Vessels calling during the last Ten Years.

1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	*1886.	*1887.	*1888.
602	564	525	497	521	414	450	396	427	496

Criminal Statistics.

Three serious crimes were committed during the year, two stabbing cases, for which a sailor was sentenced to hard labour for 18 and six months respectively, and the Savings Bank robbery, for which an islander was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. 184 cases were reported to the police and 138 persons summarily convicted. By Ordinance No. 4 of 1887 the Chief Justice has power in any case to allow a special in lieu of a common jury, and I think this power has done much to elevate, in matters connected with the assizes, the class from which the latter are taken.

Hospital.

The health of the Island was very good. In the hospital 123 cases were treated as in-patients, of whom 11 died. The cost per head was 2*s.* 11¾*d.*, including attendance, but exclusive of medical advice or the upkeep of the building. The death-rate for the whole Island was 14·8 per 1,000, and this includes sailors and invalids landed for hospital treatment or visiting the Island for health purposes. When it is considered that large numbers of invalids leave England to swell the death rate of southern Europe and other temperate regions, such as this Island, the salubrity of this climate when compared with England must be admitted to be beyond the region of question or dispute.

St. Helena is so situated as to be able to perform most excellent work as an ocean hospital. The sailors of all nations are received on payment of 3*s.* a day, a sum considerably below the actual cost per head, and when it is remembered that the port of this Colony is absolutely free to all calling vessels not landing cargo, it will, I think, be admitted that the Island deserves the gratitude of the mercantile marine of the world.

Meteorological.

The year under review was very dry; the rainfall at Longwood on the east side, 1,780 feet above sea level was 21·43 and at

* The last three years include respectively 19, 109, and 166 vessels "passing" the Island, but trading with licensed traders, under the Passing Ships Ordinance of 1886.

Woodlands on the west side 23 · 22 ; a severe thunderstorm passed close to and a little to the westward of the Island on the 2nd of October. This is the first storm which has approached the Island since the 22nd November 1874, when a very heavy storm lasting several hours passed over the Island.

General Remarks.

The year 1888 was generally a tolerably prosperous one, the potato crop though very inferior in quantity to the previous year, commanded considerably higher prices, and work, including that on the defences, was fairly procurable during the first three quarters of the year. The health of the community was good and there was a general, though slow, recovery from the troubles and poverty arising from the measles epidemic of the previous year.

The announcement by the Imperial Government of the abandonment of Ascension gave the Island a general impetus, which was, however, more than counterbalanced later on by the reversal of that policy and by a rumour, which reached the Island and received general credit, of the withdrawal of the garrison. So large a portion of the inhabitants receive indirect benefit from the Imperial military expenditure that the removal of the troops must be attended with much suffering if not distress unless adequate measures of a comprehensive and far-reaching nature be devised to remedy the evil.

Jamestown was lighted for the first time on 26th May, the cost of the lamps having been defrayed by the Jubilee Committee out of the funds raised by them, and at the request of the inhabitants a rate was legalized for the necessary upkeep and to light the town.

Taking the population at 5,200 souls, the taxation, including poor rates, amounted to 1*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* per head, and of this amount 10*s.* 10*d.* per head represents the duty on tobacco and intoxicating liquids.

The rate of passage, third class, from here to the Cape for a five days' journey was the extraordinary large sum of 10*l.*, which prevented any of our surplus population from emigrating, but Sir Donald Currie when visiting the Island promised to inquire into the whole question of passages to the Cape.

The economic difficulties attending the condition of the Island render the position of the Officer administering the Government very far removed from a bed of roses.

The many strong claims for a lightening of taxation can only be met by an increased contribution from the fairly well-to-do, a disagreeable expedient certain to meet with loud opposition.

(Signed) W. GREY-WILSON,
Administering the Government.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 67.

S T. L U C I A.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 32.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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1889.

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NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
17	Bermuda	1887
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	1887–8
57	Malta	1888
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,
63	Labuan	,,
64	Grenada	,,
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889

No. 67.

ST. LUCIA.

Governor Sir W. J. SENDALL to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Grenada, July 27, 1889.

FORWARDED.

(Signed) WALTER J. SENDALL.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

SIR, Government House, July 24, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1888.

2. The Blue Book is, I regret to say, not yet printed, but will follow as soon as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN.

His Excellency
Sir Walter J. Sendall, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the YEAR 1888.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

1. The Cargo Dues Ordinance, which was passed in December 1887, began to operate in 1888, and a duty of 1*s.* 3*d.* per ton on cargo landed (coal excepted) is now levied.

2. A license of 30*s.* per annum for the keeping of a stallion was imposed, but this was intended rather for the improvement of the breed of horses than as a means of revenue.

3. A scale of fees was fixed for the piloting of vessels in or out of the harbour of Castries. See table of fees.

4. The duty of 2*s.* 10*d.* per gallon, proof 25°, on spirits made and consumed or sold for consumption in the island was increased to 3*s.* 4*d.*

o 59852. Wt. 18437.

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5. The list of exemptions under the import tariff was amended, rendering liable to duty articles imported for the use of the officers and men of Her Majesty's Forces, and an Ordinance was passed granting them an allowance in lieu of this exemption.

6. No further changes were made under this head.

Revenue and Expenditure.

7. The revenue for the year 1888 was 42,248*l.*, and the expenditure 43,175*l.* which excess of expenditure reduced the balance of 1,110*l.* with which the year started to 184*l.*

8. The revenue was 2,300*l.* more than in 1887, and showed a fair increase in all the principal items, such as Customs, Excise, and Licenses.

9. The expenditure showed a decrease of 400*l.* on the previous year, and this in the face of an increase in the cost of loans and interest of 2,600*l.*

Public Debt.

10. This, I regret to say, is not likely to decrease for some years, as so many public works are urgently required in consequence of the War Department having resumed possession of the old military buildings, which for 20 years have been occupied by the Colony for various public institutions.

11. The public debt on the 31st December amounted to 130,200*l.*, and before the several public buildings can be built and the harbour works finished I am afraid the debt will have to be increased to 180,000*l.* at least.

Military Expenditure.

12. The garrison is gradually increasing, and in the month of December 50 men of the West India Regiment arrived in the Colony.

13. During the year the War Department acquired sites at the entrance of the harbour of Castries for the fortifications, and spent about 1,800*l.* in labour on the defence works. In addition to this 1,525*l.* were spent in repairing barracks and 1,250*l.* on materials for the defence works.

Public Works.

14. The roads of the island were kept in repair by an expenditure of 3,557*l.*, and 930*l.* were spent on the repair of the several public buildings.

15. The only new building of any importance which was undertaken was the Yaws Asylum at Rat Island, which cost about 1,800*l.*, and will be charged to the Public Works Loan Ordinance.

16. A tank was constructed in the village of Dennery for 175*l.*, and other minor works in different parts of the island, none of which cost 100*l.*

17. Work on the harbour works and dredging in the harbour was carried on during the whole year. It is estimated that these works will now cost about 95,000*l.*, and not be finished until the end of 1889.

Legislation.

18. Thirty-two Ordinances were passed during the year :—

Ordinance No. 10, for placing the Public Library in Castries on a better footing than heretofore.

Ordinances Nos. 13 and 14, for the constitution of the Supreme and District Courts and for the regulation of their respective procedures.

Ordinance No. 16, a Customs Consolidation Ordinance of 126 sections.

Ordinance No. 18, for granting an allowance to Her Majesty's military forces in lieu of exemption from import duties.

Ordinance No. 20, for the appointment of a salaried officer as harbour master and pilot. Previous to the passing of this Ordinance the harbour master received a small salary, and was allowed all the fees from pilotage; but the salary of the office is now increased, and all the fees are made payable into the Treasury.

Ordinance No. 22, to consolidate and amend the laws relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise.

Ordinance No. 23 increased the duty on rum.

Ordinances 25 and 26 are the Summary Offences and the Procedure Ordinances.

Ordinance 28, the Criminal Code.

Ordinance No. 30, the Wrecks Ordinance.

And Ordinance No. 32 increased the *ad valorem* import duties from 10 to 15 per cent. This did not come into operation till the 1st of January of this year.

Councils.

19. No changes occurred during the year.

Civil Establishment.

20. Mr. Henry Reeve, formerly staff surveyor of the Survey and Works Department in Fiji, was appointed Colonial engineer in the place of Mr. K. Reid, who resigned that appointment.

21. Mr. Harry Gamble, who holds a certificate as a master mariner, was appointed harbour master and pilot in the place of Mr. A. G. Peter, who died in the fall of the year.

Pensions.

22. Two small additions, amounting to 25*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* per annum, were made to the list, which was relieved on the 23rd November, by the death of Chief Justice Armstrong, of a pension of 305*l.*

ST. LUCIA.

Population.

23. The following extracts and table showing the causes of death are taken from the report of the Registrar-General :—

"The year 1888 exhibited an excess of births over deaths of 530, of which 234 were males and 296 females. This natural increase raised the males to 21,110 and the females to 21,721. But deducting the coolies who were returned to India during the year by the ship 'Moy,' these figures are reduced to 20,914 males and 21,590 females. The total population on 31st December may, therefore, be approximately set down at 42,504 souls.

* * * *

"Our death-rate, irrespective of still-births, was 2·14 of the population, or less than that of 1887, which was 2·22, and that of 1886, which was 2·62. Grenada acknowledges a mortality rate for the past year of 2·37 per cent., while Trinidad owns to one of 3·04 per cent."

Table showing the Causes of Deaths.

Causes of Deaths.	Under 1 Year.		From 1 to 15 Years.		Adults.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Zymotic diseases	19	22	39	36	47	45	208
Sporadic diseases—							
of uncertain or variable seat	23	17	49	45	31	28	193
of the nervous system	5	5	10	15	14	14	63
of the organs of circulation	—	—	1	—	19	6	26
of the organs of respiration	5	2	4	7	38	55	111
of the organs of digestion	6	8	5	6	16	8	49
of the urinary organs	—	—	1	—	2	2	5
Rheumatism and other diseases of the joints, bones and ligaments	—	—	1	—	4	3	8
Elephantiasis, yaws and other diseases of the integumentary system	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Childbirth, diseases of the womb, &c.	—	—	—	2	—	10	12
Premature birth and debility	47	51	2	—	—	—	100
Age	—	—	—	—	24	45	62
Deaths by violence and accidents	1	1	7	—	8	3	20
Suicide	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Bitten by serpents	—	—	4	2	4	4	14
Stung by scorpion	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Still-births	61	56	—	—	—	—	117
Legal execution	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Unknown and unassigned	3	3	5	5	3	2	21
	170	166	129	118	216	225	
	336		247		441		1,024

Savings Bank.

24. At the beginning of the year 438 depositors had 8,567*l.* to their credit; and at the close of the year the books showed a credit balance of 9,108*l.* in favour of 453 depositors.

25. The East Indian immigrants form no inconsiderable portion of the depositors, and 1,796*l.* were lodged by depositors of this class during the year.

26. The invested funds are :—

	£
New South Wales Inscribed Stock -	2,000
Canadian Inscribed Stock - -	2,000
Barbados Government Debentures -	1,000
At interest, Colonial Bank - -	1,000

Education.

27. The subjoined table gives particulars as to the several schools which received assistance from public funds.

No. of Schools.	Denomination.	No. of Pupils on the Rolls at 31st December 1888.	Average daily Attendance for the Year.	Government Grant.	Fees.
				£	£ s. d.
11	Protestant - -	1,447	762	625	164 11 2
3	„ - -	170	94	150	2 13 0
12	Roman Catholic -	1,734	991	625	167 15 0

28. The first-mentioned schools are managed by the trustees of the Lady Mico Charity, who contribute 265*l.* a year, and provide school houses and teachers' residences appraised at an annual rental of 275*l.* These schools were established in the Colony 40 years ago, and have been largely instrumental in educating the people and in the spreading of the English language.

29. The three schools next mentioned are under the management of the Canadian Mission to Indian immigrants, and were reported favourably of by the examiner.

30. The Roman Catholic Schools are under the management of the priests of that persuasion, and school buildings and necessary furniture and fittings are provided. The schools of Castries and Soufrière, conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph's Convent, were classed by the inspector of schools as among the best schools in the island.

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Imports.

31. The following table exhibits the value of imports during the last five years:—

Countries.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	64,935	41,856	63,641	58,736	75,106
British Colonies -	11,350	12,392	14,670	15,469	22,897
Foreign Countries -	70,176	39,490	43,970	41,420	42,854
Total - -	146,461	93,738	122,281	115,625	140,857

and shows that trade greatly improved in the past year; in fact, that it very nearly reached up to what it was in 1884, before the great depression ensued consequent on the extensive abandonment of sugar cane cultivation.

32. The value of the imports in 1888 was 25,232*l.* more than in 1887. This increase occurred principally under the items cattle, flour, cottons, linens and woollens, hardware, fish, machinery and agricultural implements, manures, rice, tobacco, lumber, and articles for the army and navy.

33. Among the British Colonies the trade increased principally with Barbados, Demerara, and St. Vincent.

34. Of the foreign countries the increased imports took place from the United States, Colon, Dutch and Danish West Indies, and imports figure in the 1888 returns from New Brunswick and River Plate.

35. In comparing the 1888 imports with those of 1884 we find that while they increased between those years from the United Kingdom and the British Colonies, they decreased from foreign countries such as the United States, France, and the French West Indies.

36. The following table shows the amount of duty derived from imports during the last five years:—

1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
£	£	£	£	£
20,860	17,041	18,985	17,615	20,686

The rates of duty during the period embraced in the above return have been the same.

Exports.

37. The following remarks are extracted from a report by the Treasurer on the returns of exports:—

"The total value of the exports amounted to 122,229*l.*, as against 117,743*l.* in 1887, or an increase of 4,486*l.*

"The exports of the 'produce and manufactures of the Colony' showed an increase of 11,883*l.* over those of 1887, whilst the exports of 'British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce and 'manufactures' were less by 7,397*l.*, leaving the increase on the gross total at the figures stated above.

"The following table exhibits the values of exports under the two foregoing heads during the last five years:—

—	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£	£	£	£	£
Produce of the Colony	143,564	118,536	84,638	95,562	107,445
Other produce -	2,302	2,726	20,569	22,180	14,784
Total - -	145,866	121,262	105,207	117,742	122,229

"From this it will be seen that the value of the Colony's exports were at their lowest in 1886, and that there has been a steady increase in the two succeeding years, verifying the adage that 'when things come to the worst they mend.'

"The following table gives the quantities and values of the chief exports of the Colony during the last five years:—

	1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.		1888.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£
Sugar, Usine - - - Tons	1,395	27,900	2,133	40,223	2,620	41,924	2,810	45,671	2,808	50,542
„ Muscovado - - - „	7,075	91,985	4,026	56,366	1,647	18,948	1,617	20,220	1,089	14,441
Cocoa - - - - Bags	3,116	12,465	2,825	12,109	3,417	17,086	3,816	21,808	4,951	22,987
Spirits, Rum - - - - Gall.	13,800	920	22,166	1,293	2,426	121	7,869	393	1,538	154
Molasses - - - - „	335,900	8,397	381,407	6,356	215,804	3,597	207,080	3,451	144,987	2,416
Logwood - - - - Tons	217	434	80	160	98	196	497	2,301	2,310	13,863
Fruit and vegetables - - Pkgs.	1,262	110	962	408	832	340	143,576	228	31,153	1,248

"This shows that the export of sugar has declined from 8,470 tons in 1884 to 3,897 tons in 1888, but it is satisfactory to note that this decrease has only taken place in the produce of Muscovado sugar, and that the manufacture of Usine sugar has increased 1,413 tons in the five years. The fall in the value of this our staple product causes a reduction in the figures of 54,902*l.* between 1884 and the past year. As the output of Usine sugar increases year by year, and the market for it becomes steadier, we may hope, I think, that the former valuation on this head will be regained at no very distant date.

"Cocoa has increased 1,835 bags in the last five years. As a matter of fact the greater part of this increase has taken place between 1887 and 1888, as is shown above, the latter year making 1,135 bags over the former. It would seem from this that the proper cultivation of this valuable product has now been seriously taken up, and that the old as well as the recently planted trees are receiving a due share of the attention of our agriculturists. If the same rate of increase is maintained, at the end of the next five years we should be exporting at least about 12,000 bags of cocoa. The price may decline somewhat in that time, but it will for very many years yet prove a remunerative product to the grower, as I believe it is no secret that it will pay even at 40*s.* per cwt.

"The export of rum has decreased by 12,262 gallons. All attempts to find a market for this article in England and France have failed. In the former country Jamaica and Demerara rums have already gained the name for superiority and none other need enter into competition. The French market is virtually closed against rum from the English islands, as it is subjected to heavy imposts with the view of protecting the same article from the French islands. It seemed likely at one time that an export trade in rum would be established with Colon, but the trial shipments have not proved satisfactory. There also Jamaica rum is preferred.

"The export of molasses decreased 190,913 gallons in the five years. The maintenance of quarantine restrictions against Martinique greatly interefered with the usual shipments of this article to that island, and the consequence was that local distillers of rum purchased large quantities and used it for the manufacture of rum, although hitherto they had asserted that it could not be used profitably for that purpose.

"Logwood has contributed largely to swell the value of our exports during the past year, 2,093 tons being shipped in excess of that in 1884. The high price offered for the article induced people of the labouring class to scour the country and to bring great quantities of it into the market. Unlike Honduras and Jamaica, however, no attention has been paid to its growth and preservation, and it cannot be depended on as a regular item of export in succeeding years.

ST. LUCIA.

"The value of the fruits and vegetables increased by 1,138*l.* in the five years. This increase was entirely due to the quantities of farine and other vegetables shipped by people here to their friends at Colon during 1888. As a matter of fact the only fruit sent away in any appreciable quantity is the mango, which is usually shipped to Barbados; but last year the crop entirely failed, and a very small lot comparatively were exported.

* * * *

"The following table exhibits the value of the Colony's exports to different countries during the last five years:—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	32,440	64,551	28,980	29,556	74,924
British Colonies -	545	1,591	2,183	1,260	1,231
United States - -	93,481	36,665	42,266	52,580	17,110
France - -	7,021	8,815	7,198	7,105	10,635
French West Indies -	10,074	6,803	3,915	4,988	2,135
Other Foreign Countries	3	111	96	73	1,410
Total - -	143,564	118,536	84,638	95,562	107,445

"We learn from this that the volume of exports returned to the mother country during the past year. In 1884, when the sugar crisis was at its height, and the greater part of the sugar produced here was muscovado, it was sent to the United States, where it commanded a better price than in England. In 1887 a large portion of the usine sugar was also sent to the United States; but last year very little of the sugar crop was shipped there, for the reason that the refined sugar (usine) found a better market in England than in America, where I believe, the price advances in proportion as the sugar is black, wet, and heavy.

"The large decrease in the value of exports to the Foreign West Indies was caused by the restrictive quarantine regulations which had to be imposed against intercourse between this island and Martinique all through the past year, in consequence of the existence of a severe epidemic of small-pox in that island. The usual shipments of molasses from the sugar factories did not therefore take place.

"The increase shown in the value of exports to other foreign places is made up by the shipments of farine and other vegetables to Colon, as I have already explained."

Shipping.

38. The following table gives a comparison of the number of sailing vessels entered and cleared between 1887 and 1888 :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1887 - - - -	241	12,900	237	12,814
1888 - - - -	219	16,088	220	16,318
Decrease - - -	22	—	17	—
Increase - - -	—	3,188	—	3,504

The peculiarity of there being a decrease in the number of sailing vessels and an increase in their tonnage is explained in this way. The number of vessels between this and Martinique was 78 in 1887 and only 14 in 1888, or 64 less. This was due to the quarantine restrictions imposed against Martinique in consequence of a small-pox epidemic existing in that island. But the number of vessels between this and the United Kingdom was, in 1887, 8 of 3,426 tons, and in 1888, 17 of 6,560 tons. This was due to the fact that there were more freights to England during 1888, in consequence of the greater portion of the sugar crop having been sent there instead of to America, as in the previous year.

39. There was also an increase in the trade with Barbados. In 1887 there were 68 vessels of 3,044 tons, and in 1888, 80 vessels of 3,837 tons. This was due partly to the sugar vessels referred to in the preceding paragraph having been chartered at Barbados and partly to the regular traders having obtained more cargo for this port in consequence of some of the merchants importing their goods by the Liverpool line of steamers *viâ* Barbados, to avoid the new charge of 10 per cent. landing tax imposed by the steamers coming here to recoup them for the cargo dues which they are required to pay under Ordinance No. 19 of 1887.

40. The trade with St. Vincent also showed an increase in 1888, as in 1887 the number of vessels entered was 43 of 831 tons and in last year 58 of 989 tons. This increase was caused by the good market offered here to the people of St. Vincent for their stock, poultry, ground nuts, starch, &c.

41. There was also an increase in the number of vessels from Demerara. In 1887 they were five of 300 tons and in 1888 12 of 880 tons. These vessels were chiefly engaged in bringing greenheart wood for the harbour works and the military works.

ST. LUCIA.

42. So that had it not been for the small-pox epidemic at Martinique, and the consequent quarantine restrictions to the regular traffic between the two islands, the shipping return would have shown an increase in the number of vessels entered of about 100 and in their tonnage of about 10,000 tons.

43. The following table will show the figures of sailing vessels entered and cleared as between 1884 and 1888:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1884 - - - -	219	20,050	213	19,651
1888 - - - -	219	16,088	220	16,318
Decrease - - -	—	3,962	—	3,332
Increase - - -	—	—	7	—

Thus we see that there has actually been no decrease during the last five years in the number of sailing vessels entering this port.

44. The return hereunder of steam vessels entered and cleared in 1887 and 1888:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1887 - - - -	233	236,320	233	236,320
1888 - - - -	229	236,535	228	235,133
Decrease - - -	4	—	5	1,187
Increase - - -	—	215	—	—

shows that there were three steamers less in 1888 than in 1887. This was due to the steamers of the French Transatlantic Company passing this port on two or three occasions, while quarantine restrictions existed here against Martinique, without calling in. Both the number and tonnage of the steamers entered in 1887 and 1888 were much alike.

45. Of the sailing vessels entered in 1888, 182 were British and 37 foreign, as against 197 British and 44 foreign in 1887.

46. The same number of British steam vessels entered in 1888 as in 1887, viz., 204.

47. Of the 229 steamers which entered, 80 took coal away, and 10 men-of-war and one yacht were also supplied with coal, which raised the total quantity of coal shipped to 16,484 tons, a decrease on the previous year of 1,274 tons. This may in some measure be accounted for by the fact that access to the northern wharf, the principal coaling wharf, was to a great extent closed by the operations of the harbour works, which were then approaching completion; and the temporary difficulties in the way of discharging and taking in coal caused the steamers of the Royal Mail Company to draw their supplies from elsewhere during a portion of the year.

Excise.

48. The returns show that 82,815 gallons of rum were manufactured during the year, being 22,681 gallons more than was made in 1887. This increase was due to the impetus given to the industry by higher prices which prevailed in two months of the year, when the market rate was two shillings per gallon at proof.

49. There were delivered for local consumption 62,457 gallons, and the revenue derived from duty on this was 11,316*l*. But it must be noted there were unusually large payments of duty in the fall of the year in anticipation of an increase in the rate of duty.

50. The quantity sent to the warehouse in Castries was 68,567 gallons, and 367 gallons appear to have been lost during transmission, which is a little over a half per cent. This is a heavy per-centage, and steps have been to provide warehouse accommodation at the distilleries under the the control of the Excise department.

51. The following table shows the quantities of imported spirits consumed in 1888 as compared with the consumption in 1887:—

	1887.	1888.	Increase.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
Foreign rum - - -	—	76	76
Gin - - - -	1,928¼	2,352¾	424½
Whiskey - - -	622½	762½	140
Absinthe - - -	96¼	121	24¾
Brandy - - - -	1,192	912¼	Decrease. 279¾

ST. LUCIA.

Criminal Statistics.

52. The following is a comparative table showing the number of offences, convictions and acquittals for the last four years :—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of offences reported to the police -	1,452	1,334	1,309	1,339
Number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - -	2,064	1,800	1,696	1,585
Summary convictions :				
1. Offences against the person - -	230	235	225	172
2. Praedial larceny - - - -	49	10	29	35
3. Other offences against property - -	79	84	89	99
4. Other offences - - - -	629	467	454	443
	987	796	797	749
In the Superior Courts :				
1. Offences against the person - -	17	6	11	7
2. Praedial larceny - - - -	—	—	—	—
3. Other offences against property - -	14	9	4	16
	31	15	15	23
Number of acquittals:				
1. In the Inferior Courts - - -	1,021	972	879	806
2. In the Superior Courts - - -	18	12	11	7

Gaols and Prisoners.

53. The number of commitments to the gaol was 412 against 417 in the previous year, but the daily average number in the prison was 47, or 11 less than in 1887.

54. The health of the prisoners was fairly good, and the one death that occurred was a case of suicide.

55. The diet scale was amended at the end of the year; and, as discipline in the prison had not been strictly maintained, an outbreak occurred in December, which has led to a complete change in the staff of the officers of the prison.

Hospitals and Asylums.

56. The following table exhibits the number of patients admitted to the several hospitals, the numbers discharged, &c.

Hospitals.	In Hospital on 1st Jan. 1888.	Admitted.	Total.	Daily average.	Discharged.			No. of deaths.	Death-rate.
					Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.		
Victoria (Castries) - -	122	1,954	2,076	99	1,899	38	—	59	2·8
Soufrière - - - -	17	219	236	14	174	—	32	13	5·5
Vieux Fort - - -	10	277	287	14	238	15	18	10	3·4
Dennery - - - -	17	300	317	26	264	22	—	12	3·7
Yaws - - - -	91	246	337	131	163	6	—	5	1·5
Poor - - - -	59	150	209	64	12	80	—	62	29·6
Total 1888 - -	316	3,146	3,462	348	2,750	161	50	161	4·6
Total 1887 - -	294	3,225	3,519	323	2,833	231	15	134	3·80

57. The Victoria Hospital received 2,076 patients and 59 deaths occurred, but of these one fourth died within 48 hours of admission, and were as a rule kept from hospital too late to leave any hope of a cure being effected.

58. There is no lunatic asylum in the Colony now, and the 17 patients in the asylum at the beginning of the year were sent to asylums in other Colonies, discharged, or died during the year, leaving ten males and five females in the gaol at the end of the year, and four females at the Victoria Hospital.

59. The expense of providing an asylum in the island seems to be an insuperable difficulty, at present, against improving this condition of affairs.

60. The Yaws Asylum at Rat Island was opened during the year, and 246 patients were admitted and 162 left in the institution at the end of the year.

Literary Institutions.

61. *Libraries.*—There are two libraries which are assisted from public funds. The "St. Lucia Library," in the town of Castries, receives a grant of 100*l.* per annum. The affairs are managed by a Board of Trustees, consisting of six members, partly nominated by the Government and partly elected by the subscribers. The receipts for the past year were 144*l.* and the expenditure amounted to 135*l.*

62. The Soufrière Library receives a grant of 20*l.* a year.

ST. LUCIA.

General Remarks.

63. As I was not present in the island during any part of the year 1888, I refrain from making any remarks on the general condition of the Colony.

(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN.

Government House, St. Lucia,
July 24, 1889.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty,
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 42.

SIERRA LEONE.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1887.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1889.

LONDON:
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1889.

[C.—5620.] *Price* 1*d.*

NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
1	Virgin Islands	1886
2	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
3	Gambia	,,
4	Victoria	,,
5	New Zealand	,,
6	Tobago	1887
7	Gibraltar	,,
8	Gold Coast (Governor's visit to the Eastern Districts)	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Island	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1887
41	Gambia	,,

No. 42.

SIERRA LEONE.

Governor HAY to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Government House, November 29, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the past year, together with the report thereon furnished by the Acting Colonial Secretary and Treasurer; and in so doing, can only express my regret at the delay which has occurred in rendering the same.

2. In justice to Major Crooks, the Acting Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, I would respectfully remark that anxious as he is to keep the work of the combined offices up to date, he has found it almost impossible to do so, although he has devoted himself most diligently and ably to the task; I have, however, already had the honour of directing your Lordship's attention to the inconvenience of the present arrangement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. S. HAY,
Administrator-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF 1887.

Presented to the Legislative Council by Command of His Excellency the Administrator-in-Chief.

1.—TAXES AND DUTIES.

By Ordinance No. 4, of 23rd March 1887, the mail steamers calling at the Gambia were exempted from paying tonnage dues at Freetown, and under Ordinance No. 10, of 1st August 1887, the mail steamers having on board cargo for Sherbro were also exempted from these dues.

Ordinance No. 13, of 30th December 1887, abolished all tonnage dues, and Ordinance No. 14 of same date abolished export duties, amended the import duties, and levied an *ad valorem* duty of 5*l.* per cent.

2.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue from all sources, including Imperial grant in aid of Colonial steamer, was 60,637*l.*, and the estimated revenue 59,970*l.*

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SIERRA LEONE.

The expenditure amounted to 58,334*l.*, and the estimated expenditure 72,270*l.* The actual receipts, however, formed the basis for expenditure, and a saving was effected upon nearly every item.

The revenue and expenditure for the past three years have been—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1885 - - - -	67,760	70,917
1886 - - - -	62,935	63,482
1887 - - - -	60,637	58,334

3.—PUBLIC DEBT.

A public debt of 50,000*l.* was raised in 1871–73 for the construction of public works, to be repaid in 1896–98, the Sinking Fund for which on 31st December 1887 amounted to 21,514*l.*

A loan of 38,000*l.* was obtained in 1877 from Imperial Government on account of the financial difficulties of the Colony, 30,000*l.* of which has been repaid.

The liabilities of the Colony exceeded its assets on—

	£
31st December 1885 by	42,896
„ „ 1886 „	42,313
„ „ 1887 „	42,558

4.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure under this head was only 1,116*l.* for ordinary repairs to buildings, and 303*l.* upkeep of the roads and streets, or barely one fourth of the sum voted. It is to be regretted that the state of the funds did not permit even the stitch in time being given to some of the services.

5.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to provide for the preservation of copies of books printed in Sierra Leone.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to amend "The Education Ordinance, 1882."

No. 3.—An Ordinance to legalize certain payments made in the year 1886.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend "The Harbour Dues Amendment Ordinance, 1875."

No. 5.—An Ordinance to legalize the capture, detention, and confinement of Koliama.

No. 6.—An Ordinance authorising the Chief Justice to appoint Counsel, &c.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to wrecks, casualties, and salvage.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to alter the succession to real estate, &c.

No. 9.—An Ordinance for extending the hours within which marriages may be lawfully solemnized.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Harbour Dues Amendment Ordinance, 1875."

No. 11.—An Ordinance empowering the Chief Justice to adjourn the September Assize of 1887.

No. 12.—An Ordinance providing for the safer storage of gunpowder.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Harbour Dues Amendment Ordinance, 1875."

No. 14.—An Ordinance to amend the Ordinances relating to Customs duties.

6.—Councils and Assemblies.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hill and Major Maltby, 1st West India Regiment, became members of the Executive and Legislative Councils by virtue of their assuming command of the troops on the West Coast of Africa.

7.—Civil Establishments.

Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief, arrived at the Gambia from England 29th April 1887, and returned to Freetown 27th November 1887.

Captain J. S. Hay, C.M.G., Administrator of the Gambia, administered the Government of Sierra Leone during the absence of Sir Samuel Rowe.

Secretariat.

Mr. T. Risely Griffith, the Colonial Secretary, was appointed to act as Administrator of the Gambia, and left for that Settlement 25th November 1887.

Mr. E. J. Cameron, an Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed President of the Virgin Islands, and left the Settlement on the 19th February 1887 to take up that appointment.

Judicial.

Mr. F. F. Pinkett, Chief Justice, died in Freetown 28th May 1887, and Mr. W. H. Quayle Jones, Queen's Advocate of the Gold Coast Colony, was appointed Chief Justice on 5th September 1887.

Several changes occurred in various departments, consequent upon officers going on leave of absence.

SIERRA LEONE.

8.—PENSIONS.

In 1887 there was but slight alteration.

Mr. George Davies, the yearly recipient of 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, died in April.

Mr. William S. Davies was granted a pension of 22*l.* 10*s.* after a service of 27 years as warehouseman in Customs.

9.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

Mr. Ernst Vohsen, Consul for the German Empire, left the Settlement 1st July 1887, and Mr. Philip Lemberg was appointed to act in his stead.

Mr. Louis Bicaise, Consul for Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Spain, and the Netherlands, left the Settlement for Europe on the 20th May 1887, and Mr. Frederick Burman was appointed Acting Consul in his stead. Mr. Bicaise died in Belgium on the 19th of the following month.

Mr. A. G. Kephalas was appointed Vice-Consul for Greece.

10.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The total for the last three years was as follows :—

Imports.

Year.	Value.	Duty.
	£	£
1885 - - - -	306,309	40,423
1886 - - - -	248,150	34,437
1887 - - - -	308,039	33,824

Exports.

Year.	Value.	Duty.
	£	£
1885 - - - -	326,931	5,432
1886 - - - -	325,352	5,118
1887 - - - -	333,517	5,160

	Year.	Amount.
		£
Total Customs revenue - -	1885	55,146
	1886	48,220
	1887	47,211

It is noticeable that the duties received on rum and tobacco (24,163*l.*) amount to more than 70 per cent. of the imports receipts, and to more than one half of the Customs revenue for the year.

11.—SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered for the last three years were—

Year.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.
1885 - - - -	727	217,907
1886 - - - -	635	218,947
1887 - - - -	633	174,915

12.—AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, &C.

There is abundance of land in the Colony favourable for agricultural purposes, &c., but trade and barter has a greater attraction for the community. A state of affairs in which everybody sells to everybody else cannot be regarded as satisfactory; so long, however, as huckstering pays there is little likelihood of manual labour finding favour with the masses.

13.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners admitted in gaol during the last three years was as follows:—

Year.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Daily Average.
1885 - -	987	67	1,054	207
1886 - -	1,030	62	1,092	217
1887 - -	904	89	993	215

SIERRA LEONE.

14.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following is a return of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last three years :—

Year.	No. of Offences.	No. of Persons Apprehended.	No. of Summary Convictions.	No. of Supreme Court Convictions.	Acquittals.
1885 - -	2,332	2,642	1,559	80	424*
1886 - -	2,235	2,529	1,506	99	407*
1887 - -	1,752	1,956	1,050	106	291*

15.—HOSPITALS.

The total admissions to the hospital and deaths for the last three years were as follows:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1885 - - - -	922	156
1886 - - - -	657	148
1887 - - - -	565	102

16.—LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

The total admissions to the asylum, discharges cured, and deaths for the last three years were as follows :—

Year.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
1885 - - - -	20	—	10
1886 - - - -	14	1	11
1887 - - - -	20	4	7

* Exclusive of cases that fell through for want of prosecution.

17.—POST OFFICE.

The following statement shows the number and value of money orders issued and received during the last three years:—

Year.	Issued.		Received.	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
		£		£
1885 -	3,495	24,793	2,227	11,348
1886 - -	3,396	23,147	2,239	10,300
1887 - -	3,314	22,506	2,299	9,885

18.—SAVINGS BANK.

The Treasury Savings Bank operations were commenced on the 1st January 1882. That it is a growing institution will be borne out by the following statement of the number of depositors and the total amount due at the close of the last three years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount Due.
		£
1885 - - - -	147	4,947
1886 - - -	386	8,304
1887 - - - -	501	9,330

Colonial Secretariat,
Freetown, Sierra Leone,
1st November 1888.

J. J. CROOKS,
Acting Colonial Secretary
and Treasurer.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 59.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 11.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
July 1889.



LONDON:
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1889.

[C.—5620.–17.] *Price 2d.*

NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
10	Natal	1887
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887)	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falklands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,
58	St. Helena	,,

No. 59.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Governor SIR C. C. SMITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Singapore,
May 24, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the report in anticipation of the Blue Book for the year 1888.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Right Hon.
The Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT in anticipation of the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK for the Year 1888.

FINANCE.

1. The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1888 amounted to $3,858,108, or an increase of $10,455 over 1887; and the expenditure actually incurred during the year amounted to $3,569,507, giving a surplus on the year's transactions of $288,601.

2. The following comparative statement gives particulars of the principal items of the revenue and expenditure in 1887 and 1888:—

Revenue.			Expenditure.		
——	1887.	1888.	——	1887.	1888.
	$	$		$	$
Land - - -	403,513	283,100	Salaries - - -	1,183,285	1,128,278
Licenses - - -	2,441,400	2,441,500	Contingencies and allowances - - -	44,242	37,181
Stamps - - -	351,462	355,057	Pensions - - -	94,341	103,529
Port and harbour dues -	104,369	116,244	Revenue services -	62,253	48,261
Postal - - -	115,647	123,720	Education - -	74,464	70,639
Fines and fees of Court, fees of office - -	90,140	90,298	Medical - - -	117,157	116,113
Reimbursements - -	130,559	134,919	Police - - -	74,828	74,529
Carried forward -	3,637,090	3,544,838	Carried forward -	1,650,570	1,578,530

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Revenue.	1887.	1888.	Expenditure.	1887.	1888.
	$	$		$	$
Brought forward -	3,637,090	3,544,838	Brought forward -	1,650,570	1,578,530
Interest - - -	142,862	162,998	Gaols - - -	64,616	60,615
Miscellaneous - -	67,701	150,272	Marine department -	89,955	75,183
			Postal - - -	60,571	55,151
			Transport - - -	71,909	71,089
			Interest - - -	57,255	70,809
			Miscellaneous services -	187,017	229,691
			Public works - -	1,028,654	1,071,531
			Military expenditure -	240,115	242,968
			Other votes - -	60,434	113,940
Total - -	3,847,653	3,858,108	Total - -	3,511,096	3,569,507

The excess of revenue in 1888 over 1887 appears in this statement as merely $10,455; but omitting the special receipts from the reclamation and town lands (*see* para. 6 below), a more correct statement of the excess, including all the ordinary items of revenue, would be $168,295.

The excess of expenditure is in like manner under-stated at $58,411 as shown above; for to make a true comparison there should be a deduction of $62,957 (as an extraordinary item) from the salaries for 1887, in which year salaries for 13 months were paid. The true excess would therefore be $121,368.

3. The following comparative statement gives the total revenue of the three Settlements, estimated and actual, for 1887 and 1888:—

	1887.		1888.	
	Estimated.	Actual.	Estimated.	Actual.
	$	$	$	$
Singapore - -	2,180,380	2,265,549	2,168,110	2,155,874
Penang - - -	1,194,150	1,275,313	1,342,250	1,350,856
Malacca - -	295,470	306,791	301,840	351,378
Total -	3,670,000	3,847,653	3,812,200	3,858,108

4. The following statement gives particulars of the assets and liabilities on the 1st January 1888 and 1st January 1889 :—

Assets.			Liabilities.		
——	1st January 1888.	1st January 1889.	——	1st January 1888.	1st January 1889.
Cash on current accounts or on fixed deposit with local banks - -	$ 434,309	$ 203,163	Debenture loan - -	$ 200,615	$ 160,000
			Deposits, &c. - -	257,421	264,595
Balance on Crown Agents' account and bills -	38,804	119,783	Expenditure in arrears -	16,753	20,000
				474,789	444,595
Invested in Government of India loans - -	850,000	350,000			
Loans to Native States -	114,000	64,000			
Loans to Municipalities -	446,500	427,096			
Investments - -	—	166,052	Net balance to the credit of the Colony -	1,663,415	1,957,119
Investments, gold - -	—	707,773			
Miscellaneous advances, &c. &c. - -	206,279	307,185			
Singapore defences -	41,262	41,262			
Revenue in arrears -	7,050	15,400			
Total - -	2,138,204	2,401,714	Total - -	2,138,204	2,401,714

The reserve fund, invested in Indian securities, now stands at $350,000. The sum of $500,000 was taken out of Indian securities during the year and re-invested in Colonial securities (gold) by the Crown Agents, together with a further sum of $207,773 from the surplus revenue for the year.

5. The downward course of exchange continued, as shown in the following table :—

Bank Bills.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
On London :— Sterling, on demand, Highest -	3 2½	3 2	3 1⅝	3 1	3 0⅞	3 0⅜	3 0⅞	3 0½	3 1⅛	3 2	3 1¾	3 1½
Lowest -	3 1⅞	3 1⅝	3 1	3 0⅜	3 0⅛	3 0⅞	3 0⅜	3 7⅛	2⅜	3 1½	3 1½	3 1

The highest rate of exchange during the year was in January, viz., 3*s.* 2½*d.*, and the lowest rate of exchange during the year was in May, viz., 3*s.* 0⅛*d.* The average rate for the year was 3*s.* 1⅛*d.*

Revenue.

6. The total land revenue collections for the year as compared with 1887 show a decrease of $120,413, which is accounted for under the head of premium, owing to there being no sales of Teluk Ayer reclamation or town lands during the year whereas $157,840 was obtained under this head in 1887.

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7. The other items of revenue show advances on the similar items for 1887, as follows :—

	$	
Stamps - - -	3,595	
Postage - -	8,073	(Notwithstanding a decrease of $2,000 in Penang.)
Port and Harbour Dues -	11,875	
Interest - -	20,136	
Fines - - -	12,007	

On the other hand, fees of office show a falling off of $11,794, which is due to the hackney carriage fees within municipal limits being no longer collected by the Government.

There is in the accounts for 1888 an altogether new item of $85,382 for the district collections of rates and taxes, now collected by Government outside the new municipal areas under "The Municipal Ordinance, 1887."

Expenditure.

8. The following are the principal works undertaken, carried on, or completed in 1888 :—

Principal Works.	Estimated Cost.	Actual Payments, Completed Works.		Actual Payments, Works in progress.	
		1888.	Prior to 1888.	1888.	Prior to 1888.
SINGAPORE.	$	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
1. Public recreation ground - - -	17,000	5,976 83	10,967 41	—	—
2. Extra accommodation, criminal prison -	34,500	18,337 73	16,101 13	—	—
3. Extension of public offices - - -	45,000	21,129 67	22,705 38	—	—
4. Extension of Teluk Ayer - - - -	200,000	—	—	74,627 55	9,942 87
5. New lunatic asylum -	239,854	8,950 34	230,684 11	—	—
6. Library and museum -	83,530	3,081 03	78,845 77	—	—
7. New river wall Kampong Saigon - -	57,000	—	—	21,109 30	—
8. Improvements to Singapore River (first vote) - -	220,000	—	—	44,611 58	—
9. Re-building Rochor Police Station -	13,800	—	—	10,790 66	—
Roads, Streets, and Bridges.					
1. Constructing road to Choa Chu Kang -	26,600	—	—	12,540 21	12,054 45
2. Constructing roads and bridges on old gaol site - -	27,400	—	—	683 02	20,543 45
3. Bridge at Kampong Saigon - -	25,000	—	—	15,000 00	—
PENANG.					
Civil Works and Buildings					
1. Reclamation scheme (final vote) - -	529,077	—	—	62,399 83	456,475 35
2. New landing jetty (final vote) - -	36,750	11,880 21	24,869 61	—	—
3. New Government offices - - -	250,000	—	—	59,999 90	76,158 28
4. Goods landing accommodation at Church Street (on an estimate of $) (second vote) -	—	—	—	2,594 64	288 16

Principal Works.	Estimated Cost.	Actual Payments. Completed Works.		Actual Payments. Works in progress.	
		1888.	Prior to 1888.	1888.	Prior to 1888.
	$	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
5. Resident Councillor's house (on an approximate estimate of $50,000) (second vote) - - - -	48,000	—	—	4,999 66	—
6. Construction of district office and Clerk's and Forest Ranger's quarters at Bukit Mertajam -	10,000	9,704 50	—	—	—
7. Extension of Supreme Court and offices (on an estimate of $) (first vote)	74,000	—	—	100 00	—
8. Construction of a hospital for infectious diseases -	10,000	4,911 60	—	—	—
PROVINCE WELLESLEY.					
Roads, Streets, and Bridges.					
1. Metalling second class road from Bukit Mertajam to Permatang Pau *viâ* Kubang Semang (on an estimate of $35,000) (second vote) -	35,000	9,999 73	9,999 49	—	—
2. Widening Jalan Bharu (final vote) - -	15,000	8,998 53	5,999 53	—	—
3. Re-metalling road from Juru Bridge to Tebing Tinggi (on an estimate of $10,700) (first vote) - -	10,700	—	—	4,999 40	—
4. Constructing second class road from Nior Sebatang to Kubang Semang, *viâ* Padang Manora (final vote)	18,000	7,999 99	9,999 74	—	—
5. Frontier road from Bukit Serayah to Sungei Lembu (on an approximate estimate of $14,000) (first vote) - - - -	14,000	—	—	1,999 96	—
6. Construction of pontoon bridge at Teluk Ipeh (on an approximate estimate of $20,000) (first vote) -	27,748	—	—	14,999 90	—
MALACCA.					
1. New pier - -	37,000	12,614 87	24,352 94	—	—
2. Replacing decayed telephone posts with iron - - - -	8,200	—	—	2,980 45	2,990 06
3. Quarters, office and out-buildings for district officer and staff at Jasin - -	7,500	7,324 88	—	—	—
4. Opening up abandoned road from Sĕrkam to Bĕmban - - -	5,000	4,998 75	—	—	—
5. Replacing timber culverts by stone - -	10,744	5,665 82	4,999 97	—	—
6. Re-metalling road from town limit to Kandang and Ayer Molek - - -	5,000	4,987 03	—	—	—
7. Improvements to frontier roads - -	—	—	—	4,970 14	28,745 67
8. Opening up abandoned road from Merlimau to Chin-Chin - -	8,000	3,187 89	4,809 62	—	—
9. Opening up abandoned road to Kwala Linggi	7,000	1,999 99	4,992 09	—	—

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Municipalities.

9. The following statement gives the actual revenue and expenditure, cash balances, and outstanding loans of the municipalities of the three Settlements respectively, for 1887 and 1888:—

Municipalities.	1887.	1888.
	$	$
REVENUE:		
Singapore - - - -	479,652	613,158
Penang - - - -	274,144	299,867
Malacca - - - -	27,050	31,162
	780,846	944,187
EXPENDITURE:		
Singapore - - - -	464,423	539,098
Penang - - - -	248,669	203,222
Malacca - - - -	26,540	27,529
	739,632	769,849
CASH BALANCE AT CLOSE OF YEAR:		
Singapore - - - -	15,228	74,060
Penang - - - -	25,475	96,645
Malacca - - - -	2,809	3,632
	43,512	174,337
LOANS OUTSTANDING AT CLOSE OF YEAR:		
Singapore - - - -	229,000	228,000
Penang - - - -	173,500	159,500
Malacca - - - -	29,000	24,596
	431,500	412,096

The collection of municipal rates and taxes in the country districts of the three Settlements was transferred, on the 1st January 1888, to the district officers and collectors of land revenue of the respective districts under section 274 of "The Municipal Ordinance, 1887."

The following table shows the amount of rates and taxes collected by Government outside the municipal areas and credited to the revenue of the Colony, and the amount expended by Government on roads and bridges in the same districts during the year:—

Amount of Rates and Taxes collected in 1888.			Amount expended by Government during 1888 on Roads and Bridges.		
	$	c.		$	c.
Singapore - -	2,381	16	Singapore - -	36,530	77
Penang - -	50,592	48	Penang - -	117,601	90
Malacca - -	4,723	34	Malacca - -	83,331	77

LEGISLATION.

10. The most important measure passed during the year was Ordinance No. II. of 1888, by which the law of bankruptcy in the Colony was assimilated to that now in force in England. An officer from the bankruptcy department of Her Majesty's Board of Trade was appointed on the 17th October to initiate the working of the Ordinance, which was brought into force on the 3rd December 1888.

Ordinances.

The following Ordinances were passed, and have received the gracious confirmation and allowance of Her Majesty the Queen:—

No. I.—An Ordinance for shortening the language used in Ordinances and other written laws, and for other purposes.

No. II.—An Ordinance to amend the law of bankruptcy.

No. III.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise.

No. IV.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law concerning the removal from the Colony of aliens whose presence is inconsistent with the public safety or welfare.

No. V.—An Ordinance to repeal and re-enact with amendments "The Common Gaming Houses Ordinance, 1879."

No. VI.—An Ordinance to repeal "The Domestic Servants Ordinance, 1886."

No. VII.—An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a volunteer force.

No. VIII.—An Ordinance for making final provision for the public service for the year 1887.

No. IX.—An Ordinance to amend "The General Clauses Ordinance, 1888."

No. X.—An Ordinance to amend "The Widows and Orphans Pension Fund Ordinance, 1885."

No. XI.—An Ordinance for the incorporation of the titular Roman Catholic Bishop of Malacca resident in the Straits Settlements.

No. XII.—An Ordinance for making provision for the public service for the year 1889.

No. XIII.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Passenger Ships Ordinance, 1874."

No. XIV.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the protection of women and girls.

No. XV.—An Ordinance to amend "The Pensions Ordinance, 1887."

Registry of Deeds.

11. The amount of fees collected in 1888 was $14,386.25. Of this $6,384 was for the registration of deeds dated before the 1st July, 1887, and which might have been registered under Indian Act XVI. of 1839. The number of these deeds sent for registration must, from the nature of the case, steadily diminish

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and at last come to an end. This source of revenue is, therefore, abnormal and cannot be regarded as permanent. The balance of $8,002.25 was derived from deeds dated after the 1st July 1887, that is, from the current transactions of the Settlement. This part of last year's revenue may, therefore, be regarded as permanent.

Registry of Bills of Sale.

The amount of fees collected in 1888 was $1,696.25. This may be regarded as a permanent source of revenue.

Postal Department

12. The returns show a considerable increase, during 1888, in all classes of correspondence, despatched as well as received, with the exception of the item "Newspapers Received," which shows a small falling off as compared with the previous year. In 1888 1,744,094 articles were received, and 1,736,790 were despatched, as compared with 1,493,005 and 1,600,348 in the previous year. The number of letters received and despatched show increases of 251,089 and 136,442 respectively.

13. The total revenue of the department ($123,716.56) exceeded the amount collected in 1887 by $8,066.13, to which excess the sale of stamps contributed an increase of $6,582.58 over the sales of the previous year. In Penang there was an unexpected decrease of $2,000, which is partly accounted for by irregularities since brought to light.

14. The expenditure of the Singapore department showed a small increase ($856.22) as compared with 1887.

15. The increase of business for the year under the heading of money orders and postal notes amounted altogether to a total of $14,167 for the three Settlements. Orders to the value of 3,744*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* were issued on the United Kingdom during the year, as compared with 4,081*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* in 1887. The transactions with the Native States amounted to $36,711, as compared with $26,040 in 1887; and those with India reached a sum of Rs. 185,094, as against Rs. 181,000 in 1887. The following is a summary of the transactions of the three Settlements:—

	1887.	1888.
	$	$
Singapore - - -	105,493	110,809 09
Penang - - -	71,117	75,271 68
Malacca - - -	12,903	17,598 92
Total - -	189,513	203,679 69

The money order system during the year has extended to Sarawak and Siam.

16. The records show that 91,346 registered articles passed through this Department during the year, as compared with 85,875 in 1887.

17. The number of parcels transmitted by post was 13,202, showing an increase of 2,539 over the previous year.

Savings Bank.

18. The whole amount of money invested in the Colony's savings bank during 1888 was $86,086, the amount withdrawn $83,391, showing a nett addition of $2,695 to the aggregate investments at the beginning of the year.

19. Particulars of the business transacted by the branches in Singapore, Penang, and Malacca respectively are given in the following statement:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
New accounts opened - - -	278	112	33
Accounts closed - - -	212	87	27
Accounts open at the end of the year -	570	232	42
	$	$	$
Deposited, 1888 - - -	57,102	22,820	6,193
Repaid, 1888 - - - -	54,896	21,246	7,249
Balance due to depositors at close of 1888 - - - - -	83,772	31,562	4,244

Education.

The number of schools inspected in all the Settlements has fallen off from 186 in 1887 to 182 in 1888, but the number of pupils presented for examination has risen from 6,185 in 1887 to 6,346 in 1888.

20. The number of pupils presented for examination from the aided schools for boys has risen from 1,681 in 1887 to 1,817 at the 1888 inspection; the average attendance was 2,336 as compared with 2,024 in the preceding twelve months.

The number of girls' schools inspected was 10, with an average attendance of 868 girls, as compared with 793 girls in 1887.

21. The number of pupils in the Government English schools in average attendance was 873 during the year, as against 1,017 in the past year. This decrease is due to the falling off in the attendance at the Cross Street School, the Kampong Glam Branch School (Chinese), and the Malacca High School, and the closing of the Balik Pulau Branch School in Penang. In all 622 pupils were presented for examination, as against 705 presented in 1887, and the passes obtained by these schools were 92 per cent. of those possible, as compared with 87 per cent. in the previous year.

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22. Altogether 132 Government vernacular schools were inspected, as against 135 inspected during the year 1887, but the number of pupils presented for examination has risen from 3,129, presented in 1887, to 3,206 presented at the last inspection. The passes obtained by these schools is in the aggregate 78 per cent. of those possible, as against 79 per cent. in 1887.

The number of pupils in average enrolment and in "average attendance" at the Vernacular Schools in the Colony since 1885 is shown in the following table :—

	Average Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
1885 - - - -	5,573	4,583
1886 - - - -	5,609	4,524
1887 - - - -	5,193	4,185
1888 - - - -	5,299	4,133

Population.

23. The Registrar-General reports that the results of birth registration during the past year show a great improvement over those for 1887. The figures for 1888 show the highest birth-rate recorded in the Colony since the introduction of the Registration Ordinance, and the increase has been specially marked in Malacca; but this may be ascribed to increased activity on the part of the police in ascertaining births, rather than to an actual increase in the number of births.

24. The deaths registered in 1888 numbered 16,157, as against 15,924 in 1887, or an increase of 233, the highest rate of mortality having been recorded at Penang. The greatest number of deaths occurred among persons between the ages of 25 and 35, the death-rate being 20·1 of the total number.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths registered in each Settlement during the past two years :—

Settlement.	Births.		Deaths.	
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
Singapore - -	2,528	2,799	6,165	5,974
Dindings - -	78	134	90	101
Penang - - -	1,912	2,093	3,800	4,051
Province Wellesley -	2,445	2,597	2,706	3,070
Malacca - - -	2,698	3,439	3,163	2,961
Total -	9,661	11,062	15,924	16,157

25. In considering the ratio of births as compared with the population it should be borne in mind that the greater portion of the population are male immigrants from India and China, who do not intend to make the Colony their permanent place of residence, but to return to their own country when they have saved sufficient money to enable them to do so. The disparity between the sexes is consequently very great.

26. The total population of the Colony may now be estimated as at least 552,000.

Chinese Immigration.

27. There were 164,300 Chinese immigrants examined on board vessels and in landing depôts on their arrival at Singapore, as against 167,906 in 1887. In Singapore there has been an increase of 2,447, and in Penang a decrease of 4,861. Of the whole number 103,541 landed in Singapore and 58,090 went on to Penang; the numbers in the previous year being 101,094 and 62,951 respectively. Of Singapore immigrants, 146 proceeded to Malacca, and 2,523 to other places.

28. In Singapore 18,421 and in Penang 16,186 were admitted into the licensed depôts. The number of immigrants whose passages were unpaid was less by 7,793 than the number in 1887.

29. The number of women who arrived in the Colony was 6,674, as against 6,271 in the preceding year. Of these, 3,164 landed in Singapore, 2,730 went on to Penang, and 780 to other places.

30. There were 44,451 contracts to labour executed in the Colony, as against 51,859 in 1887. Of these, 18,739 were for labour in the Colony and the Protected Native States, and 25,712 for labour in other places.

Indian Immigration.

31. During the year 4,684 statute immigrants with 317 dependents arrived in the Colony for service in the Settlements and native states, showing a decrease of 52 on the figures for the previous year; 15,812 immigrants not under agreements also arrived in the Colony, showing an increase of 3,611 as compared with the number in 1887.

The following table gives the statistics of the Department since 1880:—

——	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Immigrants under Indenture -	1,191	879	1,452	1,450	1,539	1,642	2,748	4,736	4,684
Dependents - -	107	159	209	176	177	49	244	310	317
Free Immigrants	3,755	5,769	8,276	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,812½
Total Arrivals -	5,053	6,807	9,937	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,813½
Returned to India	—	5,269	5,947	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,105	12,596	13,190
Remained in the Colony - -	—	1,538	3,990	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,623½

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The years 1885 and 1886 were, however, exceptional years, as extraordinary facilities were afforded to immigrants by the competition that existed between two rival lines of steamers, so that in reality the past year compares favourably as regards immigration with any of the preceding years.

Trade.

32. The following table gives the value of the imports and exports at the three Settlements in 1887 and 1888 respectively:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$	$
Singapore - -	92,119,736	108,112,271	75,066,330	87,143,305
Penang - - -	46,369,873	48,696,237	42,289,573	43,856,509
Malacca - -	3,833,311	2,462,142	3,985,308	3,208,621
Total - -	142,322,920	159,270,650	121,341,211	134,208,435

It will be seen that while the trade of Singapore and Penang have both increased the trade of Malacca has declined.

These returns, however, must be considered approximate only, as there are no Custom Houses in the Colony.

There is a very large increase in the value of imports and exports, amounting in the aggregate to $29,814,954. This increase may be attributed almost entirely to augmented trade, to which the Protected Native States of the Peninsula have contributed no small share.

33. The following is a summary of the shipping and trade at Singapore during the years 1887 and 1888 respectively:—

	1887.	1888.	Increase.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Revenue collected - - -	70,239 86	76,114 82	5,874 96
Vessels arriving - -	3,467 00	3,792 00	325 00
Vessels departing - - -	3,393 00	3,770 00	377 00

Imports.

	1887.	1888.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$	$	$	
Total value - -	92,119,726	108,112,271	15,992,535	—
Principally as follows :—				
From United Kingdom	16,716,580	18,646,742	1,930,162	—
„ Penang and Malacca - -	5,208,838	7,711,504	2,502,216	—
„ Foreign Countries	47,376,768	59,043,867	11,667,099	—

Exports.

	1887.	1888.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$	$	$	$
Total Value - -	75,066,330	87,143,305	12,076,975	—
Principally as follows :—				
United Kingdom -	16,883,961	19,526,721	2,642,760	—
Penang and Malacca -	3,085,696	2,879,468	—	206,228
Foreign Countries -	45,034,521	53,803,115	8,768,594	—

Native Craft.

	1887.	1888.	Increase.
Arrivals - - - -	6,015	6,329	314
Departures - - - -	5,949	6,291	342

Registry of Shipping.

	1887.	1888.	Increase.
Vessels built - - - -	63	110	47

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34. The following are the particulars of the Penang trade and shipping.

The value of the imports and exports of the principal articles of commerce is shown below:—

	1887.		1888.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$	$	$
Spices - - -	3,764,791	4,854,196	3,770,816	4,400,309
Sugar - - -	102,538	1,315,656	93,795	1,130,634
Tobacco, &c. - -	1,966,509	1,159,271	1,182,016	1,476,798
Tin - - -	11,192,649	12,440,532	11,867,282	14,476,934

It will be seen that the trade in tin again shows a marked advance, from a total of $23,633,181 in 1887 to a total of $26,344,216 in 1888.

35. The relative increase of shipping and commerce in recent years is even more remarkable in Penang than in Singapore, as shown by the following returns:—

SHIPPING (EXCLUSIVE OF NATIVE CRAFT).

Penang.

1878 - 3,410 vessels measuring 1,765,112 tons.
1888 - 5,174 „ 2,928,364 „
Increase, 51 per cent.

Singapore.

1878 - 4,333 vessels measuring 3,120,792 tons.
1888 - 7,562 „ 5,796,429 „
Increase, 74 per cent.

TRADE.

Penang.

	$
1882 - - - -	49,428,386
1888 - - - -	92,552,746

Increase, 87 per cent.

Singapore.

	$
1882 - - - -	135,536,436
1888 - - - -	195,255,576

Increase, 44 per cent.

36. The exports to foreign countries, chiefly those to which Singapore forms a trading centre, again show a large increase in value amounting to 8¾ millions, of which 5¼ millions is to Netherlands India and the Malay Peninsula.

The trade with the States on the west coast of the Peninsula is continually expanding, particularly the trade with Sĕlángor and Sungei Ujong. The value of the exports from Singapore to those States during the year shows an increase of over a million dollars.

The value of tin imported into Singapore from the West Malay Peninsula and Malacca shows an increase of over 2½ millions, notwithstanding that prices ruled less favourably than in the previous year.

Lighthouses.

37. The lighthouses have been kept in good working order during the year, and arrangements are now in progress for the erection of an efficient light on the Sultan Shoal and for the improvement of Fort Canning Light.

Public Health.

38. The health of the Straits Settlements has been fairly good during the past year, there having been, with the exception of an outbreak of cholera in the Singapore Prison in the month of April, no prevalence of epidemic disease.

Among the European population in Singapore a good many cases of fever of a very severe type occurred, causing several deaths.

Small-pox was prevalent to a certain extent in Malacca and Province Wellesley, but there were comparatively few cases in Penang, where a severe outbreak occurred in 1887.

39. The total number of patients treated in the several hospitals of the Colony was 18,113, of whom 868 were Europeans and 17,245 natives.

46. The following table shows the total number of patients treated, and the deaths that occurred in each of the Settlements :—

Settlement.	Total treated.	Deaths.
Singapore and Dindings - -	8,882	891
Penang - - - -	4,192	424
Province Wellesley - -	2,315	301
Malacca - - - -	2,724	223

The total number of deaths was 1,839, of which 31 occurred among Europeans and 1,808 among natives. The per-centage of deaths to total treated was for Europeans 3·57 and for natives 10·48, or a per-centage of 10·15 upon the whole number.

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The following table gives the work done and the results obtained in each of the hospitals of the Colony:

Hospitals.	1887.				1888.			
	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or Absconded.	Remained.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or Absconded.	Remained.
SINGAPORE.								
General Hospital, European	549	38	477	34	566	27	512	27
General Hospital, Native	2,093	62	1,994	37	2,166	93	2,033	40
Prison Hospital	378	20	332	26	626	73	531	22
Pauper do.	4,951	669	3,865	417	5,032	653	3,946	433
Lock do.	1,910	3	1,766	141	244	15	222	7
Leper do.	128	16	83	29	90	18	47	25
Lunatic Asylum	382	77	98	207	383	92	83	208
Dindings Hospital	93	6	85	2	158	12	143	3
PENANG.								
General Hospital, European	190	2	104	3	181	4	163	14
General Hospital, Native	1,122	41	1,063	18	1,111	33	1,059	19
Prison Hospital	88	1	87	—	48	5	43	—
Pauper do.	1,944	219	1,423	302	2,224	348	1,473	403
Lock do.	1,092	1	1,037	54	163	2	161	—
Balik Pulau Hospital	411	28	334	49	435	24	358	53
Small-pox do.	174	49	122	3	30	8	21	1
PROVINCE WELLESLEY.								
Butterworth Hospital	984	77	821	86	1,100	123	927	50
Sungei Bakap do.	383	32	303	48	525	53	431	41
Bukit Minyak do.	517	44	405	68	417	57	341	19
Leper Asylum, Pulau Jerĕjak	253	74	4	175	273	68	65	140
MALACCA.								
General Hospital	303	6	293	4	376	5	365	6
Prison do.	34	—	34	—	39	2	35	2
Pauper do.	1,337	161	1,050	126	2,309	216	1,885	208
Lock do.	25	—	25	—	—	—	—	—

During the year 2,522 patients were treated at the Singapore Outdoor Dispensary, as compared with 2,643 in 1887.

Very good progress was made in the working of the Penang Dispensary, the number of patients that attended being 2,238, as against 1,911 in 1887.

40. The number of vaccinations in 1888, as compared with 1887, shows a decrease of about 2,100, the decrease being most marked in Penang and Malacca. The per-centage of successful cases, however, was slightly better than in the previous year. The highest per-centage was recorded in Singapore, the successful cases being 98·20 of the total vaccinated.

41. The quarantine station at Singapore was much occupied during the year, 15 vessels being quarantined for cholera and 14 for small-pox. Seven vessels were quarantined at Penang for cholera and one for small-pox. The majority of the ships quarantined at Singapore were steamers from China.

Meteorology.

42. The following statement shows the maximum, minimum, and mean temperature of the air at each of the Settlements during the year:—

	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
Singapore - - - -	91·5	67·2	82·22
Penang - - - -	93·	69·5	82·6
Province Wellesley - - -	96·	68·	82·8
Malacca - - - -	92·	70·	82·7

Complete returns of rainfall for the whole year were received from 35 stations in the Colony. With the exception of the year 1877 the past year has been the driest recorded at Singapore since 1869. The heaviest rainfall was in Province Wellesley.

The following table shows the total rainfall at each of the Settlements, the maximum and minimum rainfall registered in one month, and the maximum in 24 hours:—

Settlement.	Total Rainfall.	Maximum Fall in one month.	Minimum Fall in one month.	Maximum Fall in 24 hours.
	Inches.	Ins.	Ins.	Inches.
Singapore - -	65·56 (Mean of 9 Returns.)	May - 16·52	Jan. - 0·15	5·12
Penang - -	111·71 (Mean of 4 Returns.)	Sept. - 26·70	Feb. - 0·34	5·27
Province Wellesley.	123·22 (Mean of 5 Returns.)	Nov. - 35·90	Jan. - 0·60	12·00
Malacca - -	75·13 (Mean of 16 Returns.)	Nov. - 17·45	Feb. - 0·25	4·90
Dindings - -	72·15 (1 Return.)	Sept. - 13·55	June - 1·18	4·86

Police and Crime.

43. The police force at the end of 1888 consisted of the following officers and men:—

1 Inspector-General.
3 Superintendents.
2 Chief Inspectors.
20 Inspectors.
63 European Contingent of all ranks.
216 Sikh „
1,599 Malay and Kling „

The Inspector-General of Police reports satisfactorily on the European and Sikh Contingents. He considers them to have well fulfilled the purposes for which they were raised. Of the Malay and Kling Contingent he reports unfavourably. The difficulty still exists, which has been noticed in former reports, in obtaining recruits, and those who offer themselves belong to the lowest class.

One hundred and sixty-four (164) men were dismissed from the police force during the year for police offences, and 107 cases were sent for trial before the Magistrates of Police.

The number of cases reported to the police was 11,682, or 1,324 more than in 1887. The proportion discovered was about 71 per cent.

The number of cases in which arrests were made by the police during the year was 28,697, or 1,720 more than in the previous year.

There has been an actual decrease of serious crime, 22 of the most serious offences against person and property, showing a reduction of 41 cases in 1888 when compared with 1887. None of the cases call for special comment.

The state of the secret societies is much the same as last year. They now number in Singapore 63,306 members and in Penang 104,303 members.

Judicial.

44. The following tables contain returns for 1887 and 1888 of the cases dealt with by the Supreme Court on the civil and

criminal sides, by the courts of requests, and by the police and marine magistrates :—

Supreme Court, Criminal Side.		1887. No. of Prisoners.				1888. No. of Prisoners.			
		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
Culpable homicide - -	convicted	2	—	1	3	1	5	3	9
	acquitted	1	3	1	5	3	4	2	9
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder -	convicted	3	16	—	19	1	2	1	4
	acquitted	5	11	—	16	—	—	—	—
Grievous hurt by means of an instrument for cutting -	convicted	7	8	—	15	1	11	1	13
	acquitted	1	12	—	13	1	—	—	1
Unnatural offences - -	convicted	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
	acquitted	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Other offences against person	convicted	16	19	2	37	13	19	4	36
	acquitted	2	11	5	18	10	10	6	26
Other offences against property - - - -	convicted	30	19	2	51	23	12	—	35
	acquitted	9	8	—	17	8	7	—	15
Miscellaneous offences -	convicted	7	24	—	31	9	12	2	23
	acquitted	6	8	7	21	3	11	—	14
Attempt to murder - -	convicted	—	5	1	6	1	6	—	7
	acquitted	1	2	—	3	2	1	—	3
Robbery with violence -	convicted	13	39	1	53	22	14	—	36
	acquitted	7	24	—	31	5	5	—	10
Theft, housebreaking - -	convicted	67	48	5	120	37	21	4	62
	acquitted	9	21	2	32	4	12	2	18
Total - -	convicted	145	178	12	335	110	102	15	227
	acquitted	43	100	15	158	36	50	10	96
Grand Total - -		188	278	27	493	146	152	25	323

Supreme Court, Civil Side.	Civil Actions, 1887.						Civil Actions, 1888.					
	Pending.	Commenced.	Debt or Damages claimed.	Compromised, Dismissed, &c.	Adjudicated.	Pending.	Pending.	Commenced.	Debt or Damages claimed.	Compromised, Dismissed, &c.	Adjudicated.	Pending.
			$						$			
Singapore	766	1,722	1,023,107	807	769	586	586	1,703	1,155,675	551	1,070	668
Penang -	634	737	528,062	689	381	301	301	1,024	573,978	291	347	687
Malacca -	43	141	67,823	43	84	57	57	139	55,370	44	103	49
Total -	1,443	2,600	1,618,992	1,539	1,234	944	944	2,866	1,785,023	886	1,520	1,404

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

	Probate and Administration.				Debtor Summonses and Bankruptcy Cases.			
	1887.		1888.		1887.		1888.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	Debtor Summonses.	Bankruptcy Petitions.	Debtor Summonses.	Bankruptcy Petitions.
		$		$				
Singapore - - -	151	619,878	166	1,203,169	33	40	46	21
Penang - -	832	566,657	464	542,607	2	6	—	7
Malacca - - - -	155	96,032	117	45,600	—	2	2	1
	1,138	1,282,567	747	1,791,376	35	48	48	29

Police and Marine Magistrates' Courts.	1887.					1888.				
	Committed for Trial.	Convicted or bound over.	Discharged.	Undecided.	Total.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted or bound over.	Discharged.	Undecided.	Total.
Singapore—										
Police - -	214	20,849	6,905	62	28,030	163	17,738	5,788	45	23,734
Marine - -	—	349	179	—	528	—	398	69	—	467
Penang—										
Police - -	214	10,641	5,550	132	16,537	94	12,323	5,480	155	18,052
Marine - -	—	68	8	—	76	—	104	37	—	141
Province Wellesley—										
Police - -	76	4,042	1,834	42	5,994	50	4,574	1,225	48	5,897
Malacca—										
Police - -	28	875	869	23	1,795	26	974	622	3	1,625
Total -	532	36,824	15,345	259	52,960	333	36,111	13,221	251	49,916

Courts of Requests. (Jurisdiction up to $50.)	1887.		1888.	
	Number of Cases.	Amount of Debt or Damages.	Number of Cases.	Amount of Debt or Damages.
Singapore - -	4,460	51,261	4,674	52,464
Penang - - -	3,050	39,332	3,747	58,266
Province Wellesley -	663	8,936	488	6,545
Malacca - - -	1,002	16,141	1,425	19,361
Total -	9,175	115,670	10,334	136,636

Inquests.

45. The number of inquests held during the year 1888 was as follows:—

Singapore - - - - -	227
Penang - - - - -	139
Province Wellesley - - -	70
Malacca - - - - -	73
Dindings - - - - -	2
Total - - - -	511

Hackney Carriages.

46. The following table gives the number of tramcars and hackney carriages of different classes registered and licensed in each of the Settlements of the Colony, and of persons licensed as drivers and jinricksha coolies.

Settlements.	Tram-cars.	Hackney Carriages.			Jinrick-shas.	Total.
		1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.		
Singapore -	14	19	656	67	3,000	3,756
Penang and Province Wellesley.	12	2	751	402	1,508	2,675
Malacca - -	—	—	51	101	139	291
Total -	26	21	1,458	570	4,647	6,722

——	Tramcar Conductors.	Drivers.	Jinricksha Coolies.
Singapore - - -	62	1,084	4,500
Penang and Province Wellesley	9	1,566	1,574
Malacca - - -	—	214	236
Total - -	71	2,864	6,310=9,245

From the commencement of 1888, the registration and licensing of hackney carriages kept within the municipalities at the several Settlements was transferred to the control of the municipal commissioners, in accordance with the provisions of section 212 of "The Municipal Ordinance, 1887."

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Prisons.

47. The daily average of criminal prisoners in the three Settlements was 1276.11.

In the Singapore Criminal Prison, on the 1st January 1888, the number of prisoners was 1,041. During the year 3,986 were admitted and 4,170 discharged.

The total number remaining in the Singapore prison on the 31st December was 857, of whom 41 were Europeans.

The daily average of prisoners at Singapore (where all long-sentenced prisoners are confined) was 917, as against 1,003 in 1887.

In the month of April there was a severe outbreak of cholera in the Singapore prison, and 50 prisoners in all died from that disease in the prison. In consequence of the outbreak it was considered advisable to remove 215 short-sentenced prisoners to the Quarantine Station at St. John's Island, of whom one died of cholera, 194 were released, and 20 were transferred to Malacca.

There were 71 deaths in all during the year, and if the cholera outbreak is excepted the health of the prisoners was generally good.

The conduct of the European prisoners was very good, and the conduct of the native prisoners was generally satisfactory, the number of offences being under the proportion of the former year.

The more serious offences punished by caning numbered 43. There were four serious cases of assault on prison officers, and eight escapes of long-sentenced prisoners, and one of a short-sentenced prisoner.

As regards the large number of escapes, it is noticeable that seven out of the eight escapes occurred during the cholera outbreak, and that most of them were accompanied by extraordinary personal risk.

In the Penang Criminal Prison 3,750 prisoners were committed during the year, of whom 37 were Europeans. The daily average was 330·58, as against 326·11 in 1887.

The state of health of the prisoners and the sanitary condition of the prison was good, there being only five deaths.

The conduct of the prisoners was not so satisfactory as in the previous year, 525 prisoners being brought up for offences against prison rules, as compared with 191 in 1887, and the offences punished by caning numbered 50, as against 3 in the previous year. There were no escapes.

Two hundred and forty-eight (248) prisoners were committed to Malacca Criminal Prison during the year, the daily average being 28·53. The health of the prisoners was excellent, and their conduct was very satisfactory.

The Dindings.

48. There was an increase in the revenue for 1888 of $2,631.69, as against an increase of $1,951 in 1887. The land revenue collections amounted to $10,553.34.

The health of the European population during the year was not good, owing to the prevalence of malarial fever.

It has been decided to move the headquarters from Pangkor island to the mainland, where it is believed that the situation will prove more healthy.

(Signed) A. M. SKINNER,
Acting Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.

Singapore, 23rd May 1889.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 65.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS (PENANG AND MALACCA).

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 24.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.



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21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
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25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
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37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falklands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	,,
57	Malta	,,
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,
63	Labuan	,,
64	Grenada	,,

No. 65.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS (PENANG AND MALACCA).

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 24.)

Sir C. C. SMITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Singapore,
July 1, 1889.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Administration Reports of Penang and Malacca for the year 1888.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Colonial Office.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, PENANG, 1888.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue, Expenditure, Surplus.

1. The Colonial revenue received in Penang during the year 1888 amounted to $1,350,806. The expenditure, including $68,206 for Penang charges defrayed by the Crown Agents in London, amounted to $1,158,996. There was thus an apparent surplus of $191,810.

2. A comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for 1887 and 1888 is given in Appendix A.* This statement does not include payments by the Crown Agents.

Land Revenue.

3. There has been an increase of $8,889.93 in land revenue, compared with the receipts for 1887, which in that year had reached

* Not printed.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

an exceptionally high figure. The receipts for four consecutive years are shown in the following table :—

—	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$	$ c.
Premium on leases and grants	970	4,479	10,303	13,916 02
Rents - - - -	22,244	26,670	38,262	41,687 03
Miscellaneous - -	12,405	15,067	19,955	21,806 88
Total - -	35,619	46,216	68,520	77,409 93

4. It will be seen from this that in three years from the close of 1885 the land revenue has been doubled. For further remarks on the land revenue, see *infra*, para. 121.

Comparative Receipts and Outlay, 1887 *and* 1888.

5. In comparing the revenue and expenditure for the year 1888 with that of the preceding year, I continue the plan adopted in previous reports of classing as "Extraordinary" the receipts and outlay in connexion with the Beach Street Reclamation. The following statement shows comprehensively the revenue and expenditure for 1888 compared with that for 1887 :—

—	1887.	1888.	—	1887.	1888.
	$	$ c.		$	$ c.
Ordinary revenue	1,256,931	1,350,806 0	Ordinary expenditure - -	974,576	1,030,349 22
Beach Street reimbursements -	18,745	*16,277 57	Beach Street works - -	39,100	62,399 83
Total -	1,275,676	1,367,083 57	Total -	1,013,676	1,092,749 05

Farms or Licenses.

6. With the year 1888 the term (three years) for which the revenue farms had been let terminated. Tenders were invited on the 7th March, and before the end of the year the farms had been allotted for 1889–91, and the usual contracts executed.

7. The following statement, which shows the terms on which the farms have been allotted for four successive periods of three

* Inclusive of interest, $340·96.

years each, exhibits a very remarkable rise in the revenue, to take effect from 1st January 1889 :—

——	1880–82.	1883–85.	1886–88.	1889–91.
	$	$	$	$
Opium - - -	440,640	480,000	582,000	825,600
Spirits - - -	178,500	216,000	240,000	286,800
Pawnbrokers - -	38,112	42,000	54,000	—
Total - -	657,252	738,000	876,000	1,112,400

8. With reference to the "pawnbrokers" monopoly, it is necessary to add that, in view of proposed legislation on this subject, the holder of the farm for 1886–88 has been allowed to retain it till June 30th, 1889. The new Pawnbrokers' Ordinance will come into operation on 1st July 1889, and a diminution of the revenue from this source is then expected. The figures under "pawnbrokers" for 1889–91 are, therefore, necessarily omitted.

Stamps.

9. The revenue derived from stamps shows a decrease of nearly $2,000. The following statement gives particulars of the revenue derived from stamps in the year 1888 as compared with that for 1887 :—

——	1887.	1888.
	$	$
Fees of office :—		
Adhesive - - - - -	19,626	17,369.00
Impressed - - - - -	4,002	4,053.00
Revenue :—		
Adhesive - - - - -	17,474	24,105.17
Impressed - - - - -	51,062	47,489.79
Judicial :—		
Adhesive - - - - -	31,407	19,823.60
Impressed - - - - -	—	9,448.50
Probate :—		
Adhesive - - - - -	1,174	—
Impressed - - - - -	10,863	11,454.20
Total - - - -	135,608	133,743.26

10. With reference to judicial stamps, I should explain that in 1887 adhesive stamps were used both in the Supreme Court and in the Court of Requests, while in 1888 impressed stamps only were used in the Court of Requests.

11. The falling off in the stamp revenue occurs chiefly under the head "Fees of Office," under which the stamps on Chinse labour contracts, among others, are classified. This is fully explained, *infra* paras. 73–75.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Works and Buildings.

12. The expenditure for "works and buildings" in 1888 amounted to $271,158.86, as compared with $232,959 in 1887. The following statement gives particulars of the principal works:—

	Total estimated cost.	Paid prior to 1888.	Paid in 1888.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
New landing jetty (Final Vote) -	36,750 00	24,869 61	11,880 21
New Government offices - -	250,000 00	76,158 28	59,999 90
Resident Councillor's House (on an approximate estimate of $50,000) (2nd Vote) - - - -	48,000 00	—	4,999 66
Construction of District Office and clerks' and forest ranger's quarters at Bukit Mertajam - - -	10,000 00	—	9,704 50

Roads, Streets, and Bridges.

13. The expenditure for "roads, streets, and bridges" in 1888 amounted to $151,044.96, as compared with $108,536 in 1887. The following are the principal works:—

	Total estimated Cost.	Paid prior to 1888.	Paid in 1888.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Metalling 2nd class road from Bukit Mertajam to Permatang Pauh *viâ* Kubang Semang (on an estimate of $35,000) (2nd Vote) - -	35,000 00	9,999 49	9,999 73
Widening Jalan Bharu (final Vote) -	15,000 00	5,999 53	8,998 53
Re-metalling road from Juru Bridge to Tebing Tinggi (on an estimate of $10,700) (1st Vote) - - -	10,700 00	—	4,999 40
Constructing 2nd class road from Nior Sebatang to Kubang Semang *viâ* Padang Manorah (Final Vote) -	18,000 00	9,999 74	7,999 99
Frontier road from Bukit Seraya to Sungei Lembu (on an approximate estimate of $14,000) (1st Vote) -	14,000 00	—	1,999 96
Construction of Pontoon Bridge at Teluk Ipel (on an approximate estimate of $20,000) (1st Vote) - -	27,748 00	—	14,999 90

14. The work of the Public Works Department in 1888 included, for the first time, the construction and up-keep of country roads in Penang Island, which had hitherto been the duty of the

municipality. Much attention was given to this, and the following expenditure was incurred :—

No.	Particulars.	Amount.
		$
1	Road from Sungei Pinang police station to sea - -	2,000
2	Footpaths in Balik Pulau Hill Districts - - -	2,000
3	Construction of landing place and roads at Pulau Bĕtong	4,000
4	Special repairs and raising to second-class roads - -	3,500
5	Re-placing five decayed wooden bridges with iron -	5,000
6	Re-placing timber culvert with masonry - - -	2,000
7	Maintenance of roads - - - - -	16,000
8	Metalling road betweeen Pulau Bĕtong and Balik Pulau -	1,020
		37,520

Concurrently with the more efficient collection of rates and taxes in country districts, which will be the result of the transfer of this branch of administration from the municipal commissioners to the Government, the right of the inhabitants of country villages and hamlets to expect an improvement in communications and the other purposes to which rates and taxes are usually applied, is fully recognised.

THE MUNICIPALITY.

15. Ordinance IX. of 1887 brought into existence, from January 1st, 1888, a reconstituted municipal council, with new duties and powers exercisable within carefully circumscribed limits. The municipality, an area of about nine square miles, including George Town and the suburbs, is a district in respect of which the varied duties of a local board can be efficiently performed ; this could not be said of the late municipal district, which comprehended the whole Settlement.

16. Limitation of area will result in the concentration of the attention of the commissioners and their servants on a district of manageable size, and with the introduction of an efficient system of valuation on which to base the assessment list, there is no reason to fear that the revenue of the newly constituted municipal board will fall short of that of their predecessors, though the latter had, in addition to the town revenue, the rates and taxes collected in Province Wellesley and in the country portion of Penang Island.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. PENANG.

17. I append a brief abstract* (Appendix B.) of the accounts of the municipality for 1888. Full details of the work of the board for the year will be found in the President's report separately published.

POPULATION. PUBLIC HEALTH.

Births and Deaths.

18. In the following table the births and deaths in the Settlement in 1888, as registered by the police under Ordinance XVIII. of 1868, are compared with the returns of the previous year :—

	Births.		Deaths.	
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
Chinese - - - -	725	792	2,609	3,079
Malays - - - -	3,084	3,264	2,570	2,684
Tamils - - - -	498	499	1,176	1,204
Other nationalities - -	130	130	151	154
Total - -	4,437	4,690	6,506	7,121

19. This return sufficiently indicates the character of our population, the Malay element being the only stable one with a healthy preponderance of births over deaths. The majority of the Chinese and Indians are male adult immigrants, which accounts for what would otherwise be an appalling disproportion of births to deaths.

Deaths and Death-rate.

20. The death-rate, according to the number of the population, appears in the following table. It is necessary to add, however, that this can only be considered as approximately correct, for the census returns (1881) are, no doubt, far below the actual number of the population, and a good many births and deaths probably escape registration :—

	Census, 1881.	Deaths.		Death-rate.	
		1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
Penang, George Town - - -	44,267	1,769	1,856	39·9	41·9
Penang Country - - - -	46,684	2,031	2,195	43·5	47·0
Province Wellesley - - - -	97,294	2,706	3,070	27·8	31·5

* Not printed.

Small-pox.

21. Small-pox was, I am glad to say, much less prevalent in 1888 than in the previous year, when I had to report a somewhat serious outbreak of this disease. Only 30 cases were treated in the hospital in Penang in 1888, and of these, three were admitted in 1887. During the greater part of the year the island was entirely free from this disease.

22. In Province Wellesley, however, where the sanitary condition of the native population is not generally so favourable as in Penang, cases of small-pox were frequent throughout the year, aggregating 986 cases, against 512 cases in 1887, with 102 deaths; a death-rate of 10·34 per cent.

Cholera.

23. A sudden outbreak of cholera in Province Wellesley in July carried off 18 persons out of 22 attacked. The spread of the disease was checked by an opportune and abundant fall of rain.

Quarantine.

24. The quarantine station at Pulau Jĕrĕjak has been improved by the addition of two new wards, and there is now accommodation for 1,000 native passengers and six officers. The buildings were occupied for 65 days in the year, eight vessels having been compelled to undergo quarantine at various times.

25. The largest period of quarantine was 14 days, and the greatest number of persons accommodated on shore at any one time was 862. Altogether, 3,216 persons were received at the quarantine station during the year.

26. In one case, quarantine was imposed in consequence of small-pox. In the cases of the other vessels, cholera was the cause.

HOSPITALS.

27. With the exception of hospitals required by law to be maintained on estates where Indian immigrants are employed, all the hospitals in the Settlement are State Institutions.

28. The municipal commissioners are not bound to apply any portion of the rates and taxes in the maintenance of hospitals, as is the case in Rangoon (Burma), and private charity, which was active in former years in establishing the Leper Hospital, Pulau Jĕrĕjak, and the Pauper Hospital, Penang, has almost ceased to contribute to the wants of the hopelessly diseased and necessitous since these institutions have been entirely controlled by the Medical Department.

29. I have endeavoured, through the Chinese Protectorate, to induce the leading members of the Chinese community to take

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a more active interest in the Pauper Hospital, which exists almost entirely for the benefit of their countrymen. I regret to have no success to report for 1888, but the matter will not be lost sight of.

30. It is noteworthy that in 1869 when petitioning the Government to take over the Anti-Mendicity Society's Hospital, Penang, the Penang Chinese undertook "to contribute a sum equal to "that hitherto raised by them for the support of the poor," and recommended "that any additional sum required, if it be deemed "inadvisable to take it from the public revenue, should be raised "by a special tax or rate for that purpose."

31. The work of the year in the Government Hospitals, as compared with that of 1887, is exhibited in the following return:—

	1887.			1888.		
	Cases treated.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Cases treated.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
General Hospital:—						
Europeans	109	2	18	181	4	22·1
Natives	1,122	41	36	1,114	32	28·72
Small-pox Hospital	—	—	—	30	8	266·6
Prison Hospital	88	1	11	48	5	14·2
Lock Hospital	1,092	1	1	109	2	12·2
District Hospitals:—						
Balik Pulau	411	28	68	435	24	55·1
Province Wellesley	1,884	153	81	1,963	233	118·06
Leper Asylum, Pulau Jĕrĕjak	253	74	293	273	68	249·34

32. Beri-beri is so formidable a disease in these latitudes that it requires special mention. It is satisfactory to note that the statistics for 1888 are, on the whole, more favourable than in previous years.

33. Reporting on the General Hospital, Dr. Kerr says:—"Admissions from beri-beri were slightly in excess of those for last "year, but the death-rate was lower, being only 2·5 per cent. "Generally speaking, the type of this disease was less severe."

34. Dr. Kerr and Dr. Rhodes satisfied themselves by investigations conducted during the year that the anchylostoma is not the cause of beri-beri, and that anchylostomiasis and beri-beri must not be confounded.

35. There was one death in the gaol from beri-beri. The patient contracted the disease before he entered the prison.

36. The statistics of the beri-beri cases in the Pauper Hospital for the last five years are as follows:—

	Cases treated.	Deaths.	Per-centage.
1884 - - -	262	54	20
1885 - - -	490	172	35
1886 - - -	568	100	17
1887 - - -	402	54	13
1888 - - -	256	56	21·87

37. On the west of the island this disease has, in former years, been prevalent among the Chinese planters and market gardeners on the hills, but the returns of the Balik Pulau Hospital show a gratifying continuous decrease of cases annually. The figures are as follows:—

Admissions into Balik Pulau Hospital for beri-beri.	Cases treated.	Deaths.	Per-centage.
1885 - - -	106	22	20
1886 - - -	70	5	7
1887 - - -	52	4	8
1888 - - -	25	2	8

38. In Province Wellesley a slight decrease in the number of beri-beri cases is noticeable in the hospital returns. The total number of cases treated in 1888 was 84, with 5 deaths; death-rate 5·95. This compares favourably with the statistics for 1887—95 cases and 9 deaths, and death-rate 9·47.

39. Dr. Hampshire, Colonial surgeon, left the Settlement on leave in the month of April, and the distribution of the medical staff in 1888 has been as follows:—

Dr. Kerr with Three Apothecaries and Three Dressers.

General Hospital, Civil Dispensary and Pangkor Hospital. Total patients treated, 3,687.

Dr. Rhodes with Four Apothecaries and Nine Dressers.

Lock Hospital, Prison Hospital, Small-pox Hospital, and Balik Pulau Hospital. Total patients treated, 2,870.

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Dr. McClosky with Four Apothecaries and Six Dressers.

Butterworth, Bukit Minyak, and Sungei Bakap Hospitals. Province Wellesley; Leper Asylum, Pulau Jĕrĕjak. Total patients treated, 1,963.

40. Advantage is now very generally taken of the General Hospital, Penang, by invalid planters from the tobacco plantations in Sumatra. They constituted nearly 11 per cent. of the total admissions in 1888, and the officers' wards have thus been in constant use throughout the year.

Pauper Hospital.

41. Two new wards were opened in September 1888, and there are now 10 wards with accommodation for about 400 patients. The average number of inmates in 1888 was 341 daily. The majority are Chinese, but the admissions include the old, the sick, and the infirm of all nationalities. Some come in in the last stage of exhaustion, in fact, only to die. Others, the blind for instance, make the hospital their home; and there are in-patients who have been there for six years.

42. In Province Wellesley, pauper patients have hitherto been received in small numbers at Butterworth Hospital. The admissions consist chiefly of broken-down immigrants, Chinese and Indians, whose health has given way in the first or second year of life in a new place under strange conditions. 231 paupers were treated at Butterworth Hospital in 1888, of whom 89 died; a death-rate of 38·52 per cent.

43. It is the high death-rate among paupers of this class and among estate coolies that causes the Province Wellesley Hospitals to compare so unfavourably with those of Penang in the table given in paragraph 31.

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44. The erection of a separate Pauper Hospital for Province Wellesley (at Bukit Mertajam), which was suggested in my last Administration Report (paragraph 25) has been approved, and the work will be proceeded with in 1889.

VACCINATION.

45. Compulsory vaccination has been practised in the Colony since 1868, but, owing to various causes, its benefits only reach a very small portion of the population. In the first place, it is confined to young children, and, as shown in paragraph 19, the number of births annually is insignificant compared with the number of immigrants reaching the Colony yearly from other places. Again, of the children born, a proportion, from various causes, necessarily escape vaccination.

46. The returns show that in Penang, in 1888, 2,054 children were vaccinated and 403 were re-vaccinated. The per-centage of successful cases was 75·29, the failures were 15·81 per cent. Cases in which the child was not seen after vaccination were 8·91 per cent. of the whole.

47. In Province Wellesley, the Colonial surgeon (Dr. McClosky) reports 3,350 patients to have been vaccinated, with a proportion of 90·41 of successful cases. The cost of vaccination averaged 66½ cents per head in Penang, and 29½ cents in Province Wellesley, but in the Penang return the calculation is based on the successful cases only.

48. Imported English lymph is used, but an effort was made during the year to introduce the use of fresh bovine lymph. A supply of bovine lymph was obtained from the Government of Ceylon, and two calves were experimented on. The experiment failed in both instances; but a further attempt will be made to establish a system by which active lymph can be locally obtained.

49. The district officers were called on during the year to report on the system of vaccination pursued in the country districts with a view to making it more efficient, but their reports had not been received before the year closed.

GOVERNMENT DISPENSARY.

50. I append the usual returns of the work done by the Government Dispensary in 1888. This institution is one at which the public can obtain advice and medicines at a very small cost, and where pauper patients are prescribed for gratis. There is an advance upon the figures of 1887, which are shown in the subjoined tabular statement beside those of 1888, in a parallel column. The Colonial surgeon, Dr. Kerr, considers the somewhat unfavourable position of the building to be a bar to the development of the institution.

	1887.	1888.
Number of patients treated - - -	1,911	2,238
„ visits - - - -	3,053	3,398
„ patients treated "free" - -	286	444
„ pauper patients - - -	964	484
„ paying patients - - -	661	1,310
„ males - - - -	1,378	1,672
„ females - - - -	533	566
Average number of visits per diem - -	10·16	10·89
„ visits per patient -	1·59	1·51
Number of days dispensary open - -	300	312
Average receipt per visit - - -	4 c.	8 c.

51. At Butterworth 506 out-patients were treated, as against 396 in 1887.

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LOCK HOSPITAL.

52. In anticipation of the passing of the measure (Ordinance XIV. of 1888) which repealed the Contagious Diseases Ordinance in this Colony, the compulsory examination of registered women, and the compulsory subjection to medical treatment of those found to be diseased, were discontinued on the 1st of January 1888.

53. Since then a certain number of women (almost exclusively Japanese) have voluntarily sought examination and treatment, but as no certificates of freedom from disease are now issued by the examining surgeon, it is probable that voluntary submission to examination will diminish or altogether cease.

54. The return given in paragraph 31 shows that the cases treated in the Lock Hospital, Penang, in 1887 was 1,092, which means that number of women compulsorily withdrawn for a time from the exercise of their trade and prevented from being the means of spreading contagion. In 1888, by the absence of compulsion, the number of cases treated had fallen off by 90 per cent., which signifies that probably nearly 1,000 diseased women were left untreated except by native agency.

55. It is not surprising that the medical officers report that cases of venereal disease are on the increase and are of a more virulent type than those formerly observed.

56. I do not wish to be understood as advocating a return to compulsory examination and compulsory treatment, the justice and expediency of which are doubtful.

57. If steps can be taken to minimise the number of cases of disease in the garrison, so as to have as few non-effectives as possible in Her Majesty's forces, the repeal of the late law is not, in my opinion, to be regretted.

VETERINARY BRANCH OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Cattle and Dogs.

58. A Government veterinary surgeon (Mr. L. Burghope) is maintained in Penang. He is provided with one inspector, and is under the control of the Colonial surgeon.

59. Cattle disease appears year after year with fatal regularity and causes great loss to the native population, but the peculiar circumstances of the Settlement make it difficult to impose and enforce strict regulations.

60. Cattle are imported from the Malay and Siamese Straits north of Penang by land,—

(*a*) for agricultural work, ploughing, &c., in Province Wellesley;

(*b*) for the food of the town of Penang, the Garrison, &c.;

(*c*) for export to Sumatra, &c.

61. They are also imported by sea to Penang, from these States and from India, for these purposes.

62. In dealing with cattle disease, therefore, regard must be had to the circumstances of the importation of cattle by land into Province Wellesley and by sea into Penang, from places in some of which there is no civilised authority to report the existence of cattle disease if it is present there. And there is, further, to be dealt with, the case of an outbreak of disease among cattle generated in the Settlement itself.

63. To efficiently guard against the spread of cattle disease it would appear to be necessary,—

(*a*) to provide depôts in Province Wellesley at which all cattle must be medically inspected, and to prohibit the import of cattle by land except at these places;
(*b*) to provide a depôt in Penang and to require all cattle landed in the island to be inspected there, prohibiting the landing of cattle in other parts of the island;
(*c*) to oblige cattle-owners in the Settlement to report at once any outbreak of disease among their animals.

64. In the absence of any one of these requirements, the veterinary surgeon has done what he could in 1888 to check disease, but no really systematic inspection or efficient discovery and isolation of diseased animals can be carried on under present circumstances.

65. The Colonial surgeon asks for two more inspectors, but the true functions of the veterinary surgeon should be to advise the district officers and the police when circumstances necessitate special preventive measures, and to provide native cattle-owners with instructions and medicines, not to superintend a separate establishment of inspectors. The district authorities with proper powers can enforce the isolation of infected animals, applying to the veterinary surgeon in Penang for professional advice where necessary.

The number of animals inspected by the Government veterinary surgeon in 1888, on importation, was:—

Horses	1,414
Cattle	11,320
Buffaloes	1,772
Sheep and goats	22,016
Swine	
Dogs	105

66. The average number of horses and ponies examined in Penang and Province Wellesley monthly was 1,447 per month. The total number of cases of disease among horses and ponies in the year was 44, and of these, 38 were destroyed, 3 died, and 3 recovered.

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67. The average number of cattle and buffaloes inspected in Penang and Province Wellesley monthly was 1,277 per month. The animals found to be diseased numbered 779 for the whole year, and of these, 633 died, 47 were destroyed, and 99 recovered.

Dogs.

68. Penang is fortunately free, so far, from rabies among dogs, which has been common of late years in Singapore, and has spread thence to Malacca. It is most important to preserve the immunity which the population of Penang enjoy from the danger of hydrophobia.

69. With this object, clauses were added during the year to the regulations under Ordinance XIX. of 1886, requiring the examination of all dogs imported into Penang and their detention in quarantine for 15 days.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

70. The usual statistics showing the particulars of emigration from China to this portion of the Colony are subjoined, arranged in the order adopted in last year's report.

71. During the year 1888, 76,792 Chinese adult deck passengers (of whom 2,675 were women) arrived in Penang from China, as against a total of 65,348 in 1887. Of children under 12 years of age, there were 1,383, as compared with 1,643 in 1887.

72. The number of Chinese immigrants who, arriving without having paid for their passage, were taken to licensed depôts, was 16,188. The primary destinations of the adult arrivals were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Landed in Penang - - - -	62,812	2,675
Proceeded direct to British India - -	891	34
„ „ Protected Native States -	8,320	425
„ „ Siamese territory -	2,445	6
„ „ Netherlands India -	162	22

73. There has been a great and sudden falling off in the number of contracts to labour entered into before the officers of the Chinese Protectorate. In 1888 only 19,329 labourers entered into contracts, a number which may be compared with the totals for the three previous years respectively in the next paragraph.

74. The distribution of indentured labourers for four years has been as follows:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
For work within the Settlement -	5,404	6,221	5,464	2,476
„ in the Native States -	2,241	5,407	7,672	4,666
„ in Netherlands India -	11,727	12,719	12,854	11,682
„ in other places -	377	399	369	505
Total - -	19,749	24,746	26,359	19,329

75. The stamp duty on contracts produced $13,806, which, although considerably below the revenue derived from this source in 1887 ($16,303.25), more than covered the expenses of the Department ($10,805.62).

76. The falling off in the Chinese labour supply, as exhibited in the tabular statement given in paragraph 74 above, is more noticeable in respect of the local than of the Sumatra labour market. 11,682 Chinese coolies contracted in Penang in 1888 for service in Sumatra, as against 12,854 in 1887, a reduction of 1,172, or about 10 per cent. But in the Settlement only 2,476 coolies were engaged, as compared with 5,464 in 1887, a falling off of more than 50 per cent., while in the Native States the figures show a falling off of 40 per cent. (4,666 contracts in 1888, against 7,672 in 1887).

77. Owing to the rapacity of Chinese coolie-brokers in Penang, a determined effort has been made by tobacco planters in Deli and other tobacco districts in Sumatra to get their supply of labour direct from Swatow and not through Penang. It is known that 11 shipments of Chinese coolies to Deli took place in the last half of 1888, and 1,165 coolies were thus imported into Sumatra, who, under ordinary circumstances, would have come through Penang. This is the explanation of the diminution of the number of labour contracts prepared in Penang, so far as the Dutch colonies are concerned.

78. The diminution of the supply of coolies for the Settlement and Native States is due to the competition of Sumatra. Tobacco planters can afford to pay much higher bounties than agriculturists in Penang and Province Wellesley, whose profits are much smaller, and the interests of the latter will probably continue to suffer, for the coolie-broker, naturally enough, will go on supplying labour to the man who pays him best.

79. The Native States do not suffer to the same extent as Penang, partly, perhaps, because tin mining is more remunerative than agricultural labour, and partly because the mining industry is almost exclusively in Chinese hands.

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80. The competition for Chinese labour has led, in some cases, to evasions of the law by employers, and as an illustration of the necessity for protecting Chinese coolies against their own countrymen I will describe the *modus operandi.* Coolies really imported by brokers are instructed to state at the Government depôt that they have paid their own passages. They thus escape detention and are shipped at once to estates in Province Wellesley. Subsequently, a local magistrate is asked to witness a contract between an employer and "some paid passengers, who have come to ask for work." In the contract a large advance is entered, obviously to cover the passage money, which, as a matter of fact, has not been paid by the men themselves. This trick has been resorted to in order to get newly-arrived men removed from town and the influence of Deli crimps as soon as possible. Nevertheless, it deprives coolies of the protection to which they are entitled, of having their contract concluded in the Protectorate, and local magistrates have been warned against witnessing singkeh contracts.

81. In view of the probable gradual suppression of Chinese secret and dangerous societies of *Hoeys,* to effect which a measure was introduced in the Legislative Council on the 19th of December 1888, it may be useful to record the names of the principal secret societies, with an estimate of the numbers of persons resident in the Settlement who belong to them.

82. These particulars are shown in the following table :—

Name of Society.	Number of Members admitted in Twelve successive Years.							
	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
Ghi Hin -	2/3,000	2/3,000	4/5,000	3/4,000	3/4,000	4/5,000	6/7,000	3/4,000
Toa Peh Kong -	500/1,000	700/1,000	900/1,000	800/1,000	1/2,000	1/2,000	900/1,000	1/2,000
Ho Seng -	5/600	8/900	8/900	900/1,000	8/900	7/800	7/800	900/1,000
Tsun Sim -	70/80	100/150	100/150	90/100	100/150	100/150	100/150	40/50
Hai San -	30/40	30/40	40/50	30/40	70/80	50/60	1/200	60/70

(*Continued.*)

Name of Society.	Number of Members admitted in Twelve successive Years.				Total.	Deduct for deaths, departure, &c., 40 per cent.	Probable number of resident Members.	Nationalities.
	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.				
Ghi Hin -	5/6,000	5/6,000	11/12,000	9/10,000	68,658	25,463	43,195	There are Taechews, Khehs, Cantonese and Hailams in every society, but in what proportion it is impossible to ascertain.
Toa Peh Kong -	1/2,000	1/2,000	2/3,000	1/2,000	19,175	7,670	11,505	
Ho Seng -	900/1,000	900/1,000	1/2,000	900/1,000	13,266	5,306	7,960	
Tsun Sim -	20/30	40/50	30/40	40/50	2,403	961	1,442	
Hai San -	20/30	40/50	20/30	80/90	801	320	481	

83. The existence of these organisations has not, in the year under notice, been the cause of any faction fights, but they are a standing obstruction and menace to the due enforcement of the law and the administration of justice, the headmen making it their business to prevent the detection of offences and to screen offenders from punishment.

84. In July 1888, during the execution of a warrant in a common gaming house, the police found a letter from one Ong Yeong, headman of the Toa Peh Kong Society at Pangkor, addressed to Hoh Bun Huan, a headman of the same society in Penang, asking the latter to provide for the safety of one Lim Bun Tang who had attempted to commit murder at Lumut in the Dindings. Ong Yeong was convicted at Pangkor of omitting to give information of an offence, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, but the murderer has, up to the present time, been protected from detection and punishment.

CHINESE PROTECTORATE.

85. The office was, during the first half of the year, under the charge of Mr. F. Powell, Assistant Protector of Chinese, who was succeeded, on his transfer to Singapore in July, by Mr. G. C. Wray. Mr. G. T. Hare has been attached to the office as second Assistant Protector since 2nd May 1888.

86. Towards the end of the year evidence was obtained of long suspected fraudulent proceedings on the part of some members of the subordinate staff of the Department. The chief clerk (C. Nelligan) and a Chinese clerk (Tho Seng Go) were suspended, and an inquiry ordered. A system of habitually taking gratifications from coolie-brokers has been exposed; the resignation of the chief clerk has been accepted and the Chinese clerk has been dismissed.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

87. The report of the Indian Immigration Agent is annually printed in full, so, under this head, I need do little more than furnish certain statistics for 1888, by which the working of the Indian labour system in this Settlement may be judged of.

88. The number of statute immigrants who entered into "first contracts" for service in the Settlement in 1887 and 1888 were respectively:—

	1887.	1888.
Men - - - -	2,165	2,096
Women - - - -	554	471
*Children - - - -	156	*317
Total - -	2,875	2,884

* Children do not enter into agreements, but they are included in this return, because they accompany their parents to estates, and, if old enough, are employed there.

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89. The following figures give statistics of the statute immigrants employed in the Settlement (exclusive of children) for the year 1888 :—

Remained from previous year -	4,675	
Immigrants, first contracts - -	2,567	
Immigrants, renewed contracts -	83	
		7,325
Discharged, &c. - - -	911	
Absconded - - -	1,156	
Died - - - -	210	
		2,277
Remaining at the end of the year -		5,048

Of these so remaining on the books of the estates on the 31st of December 1888 there were :—

At work - - - - -	4,630
In estate hospitals - - -	252
In Government hospitals - - -	71
In gaol - - - - -	95
	5,048

90. The following statement gives particulars of the deaths, desertions, and convictions in respect of the several estates :—

Estate.	Average No.	Number of			Rate per 1,000.		
		Deaths.	Desertions.	Convictions.	Deaths.	Desertions.	Convictions.
Sungei Penang -	35	—	39	4	—	563·36	114·28
Tanjong Bunga -	19	—	8	—	—	296·29	—
Alma - - -	361	26	421	95	72·02	795·84	263·15
Byram - -	717	20	182	104	27·47	228·93	145·11
Batu Kawan - -	823	36	105	393	44·95	90·59	477·52
Caledonia - -	1,255	66	403	188	52·58	246·78	150·66
Golden Grove -	552	34	161	68	61·59	226·76	123·18
Malakoff - -	478	11	86	359	23·01	136·07	751·04
Prye - - -	766	13	351	614	16·97	307·89	801·69
Trans-Krian - -	370	4	219	126	10·81	291·66	340·54
Bukit Tualong -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Val d'Or - -	145	—	16	1	—	102·56	6·89

91. Efforts have been made during the year to get all labour contracts completed and signed in Penang, so that the statute labourer goes on to his destination, wherever it may be, legally

bound to enter upon work at once. Some employers of labour have authorised agents in Penang to execute the necessary contracts on their behalf, after fresh medical examination of the coolies. Sĕlángor and Johor, however, hold aloof from this arrangement, and labourers for those States sign their agreements on arrival at their destination.

92. The excessive number of desertions in 1888 (the Indian Immigration Agent reports it to be 1,992) calls for remark. There is no doubt that, in regard to Indian labour, as in regard to Chinese labour (*supra* para. 76), the employer in the Straits suffers from the competition of the tobacco planter in Sumatra. In one instance a native crimp was caught on a sugar estate in Province Wellesley with a document in his possession emanating from a firm of tobacco planters in Deli (Sumatra) authorising him to engage a number of Tamil coolies.

93. Desertion will, of course, always be a feature of any artificial labour system, where a labourer voluntarily parts with his liberty for three years in consideration of an advance, if he finds that the wages paid to him are small and the process of repaying his advance tedious, in proportion to what they would be if he were a free agent.

94. I remain of opinion that planters in the Straits Settlements will yet find that their best chance of attracting and keeping Indian labour of a satisfactory type is (*see* para. 38 of my Administration Report 1887) to "raise the minimum rate of wages fixed "by Ordinance V. of 1884, section 46 (12 cents a day in the first "year and 14 cents a day in the second and third years after "repayment of advances) and to reduce the periods of the con-"tract (three years)." I am aware that the usual answer to this suggestion is that the price of sugar is so low that but for cheap labour production must cease. But the depreciation of silver in the Colony gives the Province Wellesley planter a profit of about 20 per cent., which the sugar planter in Java does not get, and the facilities which the former enjoys in the matter of transport and communications are also greatly in his favour. Yet the sugar industry in Java has survived the crisis.

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95. The Indian Immigration Agent (Mr. MacGregor) writing on the same subject in his Annual Report for 1888, expresses a similar opinion on the wages question.

96. More, perhaps, might be done to help the employer to recover deserters, and if it is true that, influenced by bounties offered by Sumatra planters, crimps habitually resort to Province Wellesley sugar plantations to entice labourers away, this can only be counteracted by spending money freely to obtain information. Government rewards might be offered.

97. Again, the procedure for obtaining the extradition of runaway coolies who desert from the Native States to the Colony, or *vice versâ*, is most cumbrous, involving at least two references to Singapore before a dishonest labourer who crosses the ditch which separates Province Wellesley from Pérak can be sent back.

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98. The draft of a scheme for establishing a Straits Settlements Government Coolie Depôt at Negapatam, under the management of an Emigration Agent in the service of the Colony, was circulated during the year to employers of labour, and communicated to the Government of Madras. The subject is still under consideration.

99. Great advantage to the trade of Penang continues to result from the regular running of the subsidised line of steamers between Penang and Negapatam. The Agents (Messrs. Huttenbach, Liebert & Co.) have carried out their contract to my complete satisfaction during the year.

LAND REVENUE AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

100. A further step has been made in the development of district administration in this Settlement by the sub-division of Province Wellesley into three districts, the northern (between the Muda and the Prye) being placed under the Province Magistrate (Mr. J. K. Birch) as Senior District Officer; the other two are the Central (between the Prye and the Junjong Rivers), superintended during the year by Mr. G. C. Wray (January to July) and Mr. A. H. Capper (July to December), and the southern (between the Junjong and Krian Rivers) under the management of Mr. R. N. Bland.

101. Simultaneously with the appointment of an additional district officer in Province Wellesley, the collection of the rates and taxes in the country was taken over by the Government, and the assessor and collector maintained by the Municipal Commissioners was withdrawn.

102. A new head of revenue appears, therefore, in the returns for 1888—"rates and taxes in country districts."

103. When it is considered that 1888 was the first year of the working of the new organisation, and that the district officers had, at short notice, to embark upon work which was new to them, with the aid of sub-collectors and records hurriedly taken over from the municipality, there would be little cause for surprise if I had to record that strictly land revenue work had been prejudiced by the performance of these new duties.

104. But, so far from this being the case, I am gratified to be able to report that the officers in question, and those mentioned in the next paragraph, introduced the new system with complete success, and at the same time brought up the land revenue to a figure which it has never before attained.

105. The land revenue officers in Penang Island during the year were Mr. A. T. Bryant, Acting Collector of Land Revenue, in charge of the N. E. District, and Mr. A. W. S. O'Sullivan, District Officer, in charge of the S. W. District.

DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC LAND.

106. The titles issued during the year were:—

	Statutory Grants.	Agreements.	Licenses for temporary Occupation.
Town Office - - - -	44	8	—
District Office, Balik Pulau - -	136	29	20
Do., North District, Province Wellesley - -	1	39	9
Do., Central District, Province Wellesley - -	7	124	—
Do., South District, Province Wellesley - -	47	55	—
	235	255	29

107. Of these, 29 grants were for town lots on Weld Quay, issued in accordance with the agreement of 1879.

108. The price obtained for country land averaged $13 per acre.

109. Applications for waste land were received during the year as follows:—

	Number.	Aggregate Area.
		Acres.
Town Office - - - - -	12	185
District Office, Balik Pulau - - -	62	727
Do., North District, Province Wellesley	114	755
Do., Central do. do. -	571	746
Do., South do. do. -	155	700
	914	3,013

110. Owing to the large number of applications for land in the Central District, Province Wellesley, a special demarcator was appointed in August, who had marked out 293 allotments before the end of the year.

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111. On the 10th September, 122 lots of land on the south bank of the Krian River at Teluk Ipel, where the pontoon bridge is about to be erected, were put up to sale by auction. 47 lots were sold, the price averaging $7 per lot not exceeding 100 feet by 20 feet.

112. Village sites were set aside and proclaimed under Ordinance II. of 1886 at the following places:—

Pulau Kra - - - -	70 houses.
Gertak Sanggul - - -	61 „
Pasir Panjang - - -	40 „
Puntei Acheh - - -	20 „

GUARDIANSHIP OF CROWN RIGHTS.

113. The proceedings taken under Ordinance X. of 1883 to prevent or punish encroachments upon Crown rights are shown in the following return:—

——	Town.	Balik Pulau.	North District.	Province Wellesley Central District.	South District.
Prosecutions - -	4	378	14	56	58
Convictions - -	4	158	6	13	20
Acquittals - -	—	—	2	12	11
Settled - -	—	123	3	25	22
Withdrawn - -	—	97	3	6	5
Fines imposed -	69$	621$	38$	257·50$	311$

114. Except in Balik Pulau, where the work of Forest Ranger Moung Mia Cheng was much to be commended, this return does not show any marked activity on the part of the forest rangers, who were distributed as follows during the year:—

	$
Town District, Penang, one at - - -	720
Balik Pulau, one at - - - -	360
North District, Province Wellesley -	720
Do. do. - - -	360
Central District, Province Wellesley -	720
Southern District, Province Wellesley -	420
Do. do. - -	180

115. But the forest rangers are also bailiffs, and much of their time is now occupied in the recovery of arrears of rent by attachment under Ordinance IV. of 1886.

116. I have been endeavouring for some years past to bring about an approximate equilibrium between the expenses of the forest rangers' establishment and the revenue derived by their means and the result shown in the following statement is more favourable than in former years:—

Salaries of Forest Rangers.

	$	$ c.
Three at 720 - - -	2,160	
One „ 420 - - -	420	
Two „ 360 - - -	720	
One „ 180 - - -	180	
		3,480 00
Transport charges for 1888 were -		1,596 37
Total expenditure -		5,076 37

Against this may be placed the following items of revenue:—

Fines paid under Ordinance X. of 1883 -	1,080 45
Preliminary survey expenses under Rule 7 under Ordinance IV. of 1886 - -	1,222 62
Bailiffs' expenses paid under Land Office instructions of the 18th April 1887 -	503 87
Total revenue -	2,806 94
Deficit -	2,269 43

This should be compared with the expenditure in 1885, when the forest rangers cost;—

	$ c
Salaries - - - -	3,190 70
Transport - - - -	1,936 84
Total -	5,127 54

and the only revenue was fines paid under Ordinance X. of 1883, $962.

117. There is a falling off in the revenue classified under the head of "Timber Royalty," the receipts for 1888 being $1,165.03, against $1,335 for 1887, and $1,195 for 1886. But this is accounted for by my having almost altogether prohibited the issue of licenses in Penang Island for a great part of the year.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

118. It is to regretted that the following statement, extracted from the report of the Commissioner of Lands Titles for 1887, still holds good as regards Penang and Province Wellesley:—"It "has not yet been thought advisable to introduce into Penang "'The Registration of Deeds Ordinance 1886,' which is in opera- "tion in Singapore, because the want of a survey, and conse- "quently the absence of survey numbers, renders it difficult to "compile a satisfactory 'Index of Lands." Registration is still "carried on, therefore, on the unsatisfactory system regulated by "Indian Act XVI. of 1839, section 11." The completion of the re-survey of Penang Island, which has now been in hand for four years, would enable this useful measure to be introduced, affording protection to the public against secret and fraudulent conveyances.

119. The number of deeds registered in 1888, as compared with the business done in the registry of deeds in previous years, is shown in the following statement:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of deeds registered -	2,649	3,453	4,116	3,654
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Fees received - - -	5,613 50	7,386 10	8,491 50	7,705 50

120. The Acting Collector of land revenue (Mr. Bryant) reports that land speculation was much less rife in 1888 than in the previous year, and accounts in this way for the diminution in the number of transfers registered. It is stated that it is common in Penang to insert fictitious and excessive values in conveyances, and that the consideration money stated in a deed is consequently no trustworthy indication of the real value of the land transferred.

COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE.

121. The marked improvement in the land revenue of Penang and Province Wellesley mentioned in my last Administration Report was continued, and I subjoin the comparative table published last year with the addition of the figures for 1888:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Premium on leases and grants - - -	970 13	4,479 28	10,303 29	13,916 02
Land rents - - - - -	22,243 31	26,669 91	38,262 65	41,657 03
Beach rents - - - - -	—	—	178 98	155 20
Grazing lands and gardens - - -	3,820 25	4,172 25	3,467 25	4,745 25
Tenths, coral and granite - - -	160 00	190 75	868 18	543 00
Timber royalty - - - - -	1,520 17	1,195 79	1,335 47	1,165 03

——	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Fees on issue of notices - - - -	661 50	884 00	2,223 20	2,545 00
Fees for registration and preparation of grants - - - - - - -	—	—	1,750 70	1,283 70
Fees for search, registration of deeds, &c. -	5,613 50	7,386 10	8,491 50	7,705 50
Expenses of preliminary survey - -	—	675 00	1,647 28	1,222 62
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	650 75	1,238 63	1,639 44	2,109 90
	35,639 61	46,891 71	70,167 94	77,048 25

122. The revenue for 1888 has been contributed by the five districts in the following proportions:—

——	Town Office.	Balik Pulau.	North District, P.W.	Central District, P. W.	South District, P. W.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Premium on grants - -	1,436 90	1,356 00	5,035 75	4,310 50	1,776 87
Land rents - - - -	11,924 95	9,346 46	6,224 16	9,279 46	4,882 00
Beach rents - - -	155 20	—	—	—	—
Grazing land and gardens -	4,745 25	—	—	—	—
Tenth, coral and granite - -	543 00	—	—	—	—
Timber royalty - - -	69 11	956 33	48 68	59 85	31 06
Fees on issue of notices - -	933 00	188 50	504 00	436 00	483 50
„ for search, registration, &c.	6,467 50	287 00	116 00	557 00	278 00
„ Registration and preparation of grants - -	225 00	687 70	16 00	189 00	166 00
Expenses of preliminary survey -	29 60	192 87	196 40	585 05	218 70
Miscellaneous - - -	1,543 65	33 60	234 56	106 42	191 67
Reimbursements.					
Survey fees - - - -	798 16	1,161 02	39 60	109 60	47 00
Sale of boundary stones - -	1,277 86	2,661 18	194 50	719 36	419 30
Sale of maps and plans - -	166 00	—	—	—	—
Reimbursements.					
Cost of Beach Street reclamation	16,277 57	—	—	—	—
Total - - -	46,592 75	16,870 66	12,609 65	16,352 24	8,494 10

123. There is a satisfactory increase under the two most important headings, "Premium on Grants" and "Land Rents;" but many of the minor headings show a decrease. As reorganisation advances, a further decrease must be expected under such headings as "Preliminary Expenses," "Boundary Stones," and "Survey Fees."

124. The increase under "Land Rents" in six years is shown in the following table. Further increase may be looked for, as settlement is pushed on, for the system of collection is not yet efficient, and large arrears are necessarily left uncollected annually.

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PÉNANG.

Land Rents.

	Arrears.		Current.		Total.	
	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.
1883 - - - - -	9,854	08	16,335	78	26,189	82
1884 - - - - -	8,207	86	16,007	34	24,215	20
1885 - - - - -	7,436	80	14,806	51	22,243	31
1886 - - - - -	11,223	18	15,446	73	26,669	91
1887 - - - - -	15,006	04	23,256	61	38,262	65
1888 - - - - -	14,093	17	27,563	86	41,657	03

DEMARCATION AND REVENUE SETTLEMENT.

125. Two small districts within the municipality were demarcated and surveyed during the year with good results. One was a small block between Northern Road and Burma Road. The Demarcation Officer (Mr. Bryant) reports that "about half of the titles produced "were not on the rent-roll at all, or were not identified as apply- "ing to these particular lands, and rent was in arrear, all of which "was recovered. There is no doubt that the demarcation of the "rest of the town would be welcomed by landowners."

126. The other block was at Jelutong; it was settled during the year, and all arrears collected.

127. Progress was also made with another block at Jelutong, and with the coast districts, north and south of the municipal limits.

128. From the report of the District Officer, Balik Pulau, I extract the following:—

"No opposition worth speaking of was experienced from the Chinese this year. The Chinese in Pulau Bĕtong Hill Mukim displayed the utmost readiness and even anxiety to settle, their whole demeanour contrasting strongly with that of the Batu Etam men last year. No complaints were made as to excessive rent.

"At Teluk Kumbar, Byan Lepas, and Relau the titles for 934 holdings were investigated, notes were taken, and corresponding entries made in the Settlement registers.

"Fair registers numbered to correspond with the mukim maps and the territorial rent-roll have been prepared, so that we possess a complete and uniform record for the collection of revenue in No. 1 District."

129. In the Northern District, Province Wellesley, the demarcation of one mukim (Teluk Ayer Tawar) was taken in hand and nearly completed by the end of the year.

130. In the Central District, Province Wellesley, four mukims were completely demarcated during the year (which, with five demar-

cated in 1887, makes nine out of 21 mukims in the District) and the demarcation of three more was well forward at the end of the year. Revenue settlement was carried out in the mukims of Bukit Mertajam, Tanah Liat and Teluk Wang.

131. The Southern District, Province Wellesley, was divided into 15 mukims. The permanent demarcation of the holdings in four mukims (temporarily demarcated in 1885) was nearly completed during the year. Demarcation and settlement were also commenced in a fifth mukim (Chĕmpĕdak).

132. The system which is being carried out is that which is described in the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Lands Titles for 1887, paragraph 72:—

"The gradual examination of all the holdings in every mukim in a district and the compilation for every mukim of a complete Domesday book. The district officer obtains the necessary particulars in the district itself, and the tenure and revenue liability of every piece of land shown in a mukim map is entered in a register, from which a rent-roll is prepared."

133. I believe that this work would be much more rapidly and efficiently carried out if a special officer could be temporarily detailed as Settlement officer. He would settle each district in turn and hand over complete revenue records to each revenue officer.

Issue of Titles.

134. The following statement shows the number of statutory grants and agreements issued in 1887 and 1888 respectively:—

	1887.		1888.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
PENANG ISLAND.		A. R. P.		A. R. P.
Statutory grants	204	483 2 11	234	1,098 0 14
Agreements	42	196 3 37	45	248 1 24
Total	246	680 2 08	279	1,346 1 38
PROVINCE WELLESLEY.				
Statutory grants	70	1,544 1 35	60	1,349 1 23½
Agreements	329	1,538 0 38	212	1,532 3 21
Total	399	3,082 2 33	272	2,882 1 4½

COLLECTION OF RATES AND TAXES IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

135. Up to the end of 1887, the rates and taxes in the country, as in the town, were collected by the Municipal Commissioners, who maintained an assessor and collector (salary $150 a month

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with a commission of 10 per cent. on collections) in Province Wellesley.

136. When Ordinance IX. of 1887 came into operation, and the collection of rates and taxes in the districts beyond the new municipal limits was made over to Government, it was found that the payments had, in many places, been allowed to fall seriously in arrear. Figures furnished by the Municipal Commissioners show that on the 1st of January 1888 the sums to be collected were as follows:—

	$	
Arrears due prior to 1887 (about half believed to be recoverable) -	47,473	38
Rates and taxes for 1887 (Penang) -	8,675	02
Do. do. (P. W.) -	31,271	07
Total - -	87,419	47

137. Hitherto it had been the custom to collect assessment in arrear, the demand for 1887 being payable in 1888.

138 But under Ordinance IX. of 1887 rates and taxes became payable in advance, so, to the arrears uncollected before 1887, and to the current demand for 1887, it became necessary to add the rates and taxes for 1888, in order to make up the total of the sum to be collected in 1888.

139. The records obtained from the Municipal Commissioners were distributed among the five officers in charge of districts, and at the end of the year the total sum collected was found to be $75,229.08, made up as follows:—

District Collections, under Ordinance IX. of 1887, *in* 1888.

	North-east District, Penang.	South-east District, Penang.	North District, P.W.	Central District, P.W.	South District, P.W.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Assessment on lands - -	6,222 05	6,855 41	14,022 60	5,646 00	6,734 49
Do. houses - -	1,743 57	2,219 77	5,200 39	4,576 10	5,102 47
Taxes on carts and carriages -	1,316 77	2,204 36	3,697 17	3,638 25	2,579 05
Taxes on carts and horses -	161 00	117 00	435 00	395 00	284 00
Notice fees - - - -	121 50	195 50	415 50	327 80	203 50
Distraint fees - - -	41 75	—	24 00	31 50	106 84
Licenses - - - -	50	—	—	—	—
Water rate - - - -	—	186 00	—	—	422 99
Fines - - - -	—	—	—	1 25	—
Total - - -	9,607 14	11,778 04	23,794 66	14,615 90	15,433 34

140. Arrears collected which had been due prior to December 31st, 1887, amounted to $33,295.85, and this sum, less the cost of collection, became payable to the Municipal Commissioners of George Town. Of this, $24,636.60 was paid to the Commissioners in 1888, and $3,882.76 since the close of the year. The cost of collection was $4,776.49. After deducting the share of the Municipal Commissioners, there remained a sum of $46,609.72 to the credit of the general revenue.

141. At the end of 1888, it was officially announced that all arrears of rates and taxes which had accrued prior to December 31st, 1887, had been remitted, and no arrears have been carried forward to 1889, except unpaid bills for rates and taxes for 1888.

142. The permanent revenue under the head of district collections under Ordinance IX. of 1887 is estimated to be $45,000 per annum.

Re-valuation.

143. An important measure which has to be carried out in connexion with the efficient collection of this revenue is the re-valuation of land, and the re-assessment of houses in all the districts.

144. The records taken over from the Municipal Commissioners are hopelessly imperfect. The assessment list and tax list required by Ordiance IX. of 1887, sections 80 and 104, must be made from fresh materials. On this subject I have to report that something was done in this direction in 1888. "Instructions to Valuators" were approved by Government and printed. The re-numbering of houses was put in hand in all districts, and in one district (Balik Pulau) a commencement was made of the re-valuation of lands. Mr. O'Sullivan, District Officer, reports as to this:—

"An entire re-assessment was made of the lands in the three mukims of Sungei Burong, Sungei Penang Hill and Batu Etam, and of all the houses in the district. This re-assessment, which will result in an increase to the revenue of about $2,000, was carried out by the Pĕnghúlus under my supervision."

145. The Senior District Officer, Province Wellesley (Mr. J. K. Birch), reports:—

"During the course of the year the houses in the Teluk Ayer Tawer division were entirely re-numbered and re-assessed where necessary. As showing the inaccuracy of the old rate book, the number of houses was reduced from 2,400 to 1,860, although 801 new houses were added, which had not been previously assessed. A number of houses of the smallest class were, however, omitted, whereas the municipality carried assessment down as low as 10 cents a year."

146. Mr. Capper (Central District, Province Wellesley) writes:—
"The re-numbering of houses is proceeding, and about 1,500
"numbers have already been affixed. There are at least 7,000

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" houses in the district." Mr. Bland (Southern District) reports :— " All the houses in the district, except those of the poorest type, " which are not assessed, were re-numbered and re-assessed. The " assessment of some small estates, chiefly in the neighbourhood of " Bukit Tambun, was revised." Mr. Bryant (North-east District, Penang Island) says :—" A re-assessment of houses was commenced " towards the end of the year, and has been successfully carried " out by a native assessor."

SURVEY.

147. The decision of the Secretary of State on the Survey Question was laid before Council on the 4th October 1888. Lord Knutsford has approved of the demarcation and re-survey of the Colony being undertaken generally on the lines of Lieutenant-Colonel Barron's recommendations, such re-survey to be carried out by a responsible officer borrowed from the Indian Service, to whom the work will be entrusted independently of the Colonial Engineer and Surveyor General.

Revenue Survey.

148. Mr. Laseron, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, left in July 1888, the period of his engagement having terminated. The new survey of Penang Island has been continued during the year.

Return of Work done.

149. The total out-turn of allotments surveyed during the year was 1,457 allotments, comprising about 9,097 acres.

FOREST RESERVES AND GARDENS.

150. These consist principally of tracts on the hills at altitudes varying from 800 to 2,750 feet. No revenue is derived from the sale of timber, for most of it is difficult of access, and there is no water-power by which it can be conveyed to the sea.

151. A small staff of forest-guards is kept up. They prosecuted 24 persons in 1888 for cutting Crown timber and offences of a like nature; 16 were convicted and 8 discharged. The fines inflicted amounted to $105.

152. The limits of the reserves are marked by boundary roads, which have been kept clear.

153. Visits were paid by the Assistant Superintendent of Forests (Mr. C. Curtis) to the Dindings in January and July, and to the Longkawi Islands in July. Useful reports on the forests of the Dindings were furnished.

Gardens.

154. The Waterfall Garden has been extended and improved, and the area laid out at the end of the year was 35 acres. Considerable attention has been given to the gardens and grounds at

the Governor's bungalow, "Bel Retiro," which having an altitude of 2,500 feet permits of the successful cultivation of plants requiring a lower temperature than that obtainable in the Waterfall Garden.

155. Mr. Curtis recommends that the present plant-houses, built of temporary materials, be replaced by light iron structures similar to those in use in the public gardens in Calcutta.

SHIPPING AND TRADE.

Arrivals and Departures.

156. The number and tonnage of the vessels which arrived at and cleared from the port show an advance upon the figures for 1887. The following table shows the arrivals and departures for 1887 and 1888 compared :—

	1887.		1888.	
	Nos.	Tonnage.	Nos.	Tonnage.
Arrivals.				
Steam and square-rigged -	2,507	1,452,473	2,596	1,468,465
Native craft - - -	3,019	71,760	3,225	78,730
Departures.				
Steam and square-rigged -	2,424	1,459,520	2,578	1,459,899
Native craft - - -	3,255	79,563	3,473	86,821

157. The increase in the trade carried by native craft is especially noticeable.

158. The usual statement showing the ports of departure and destination of the vessels frequenting the port in 1888 will be found in Appendix C.*

Lighthouses and Light Dues.

159. There was an increase of revenue in 1888 under the head of "Light Dues," the collections having amounted to $17,443.84, as against $14,469.95 in 1887. The increase in the number of arrivals of steamers and ships partly accounts for this, but certain alterations in the scale of dues levied on vessels engaged in the local trade have probably also contributed to it.

160. The charges levied are two cents a ton for vessels which pass the whole of the Straits lights, and one cent a ton for vessels which pass one or more lights but not all of them.

* Not printed.

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PENANG.

Lighthouses.

161. The lighthouses at Muka Head and Pulau Rimau have been maintained in good order. The improved burner and reflector supplied to Pulau Rimau have given the light a range of from 12 to 15 miles.

Imports and Exports.

162. The value of the imports and exports in 1887 and 1888, respectively, and the quarters whence and whither merchandise was imported and exported, are shown in the following tabular statement:—

Countries.	1887.		1888.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$	$	$
United Kingdom - -	5,388,904	9,874,547	6,176,565	9,673,628
Other European countries -	1,320,168	1,406,045	2,005,112	1,640,182
British Burmah - -	4,729,586	1,572,010	4,194,194	1,243,137
British India - - -	3,774,673	1,484,682	4,526,697	2,143,060
Hongkong - - -	6,157,696	3,303,023	8,147,017	3,324,388
Other British Possessions -	100,231	17,622	34,615	68,154
Malay Peninsula, West -	8,209,636	5,657,061	9,073,750	5,072,141
Siam, west coast - -	3,750,232	2,307,841	3,510,089	2,328,580
Netherlands India - -	5,341,722	10,015,413	5,153,793	10,413,811
China - - - - -	488,061	810,923	894,399	2,044,334
Other Asiatic countries and Egypt.	3,111,841	44,636	1,384,342	57,704
United States - -	334,150	1,483,879	306,750	554,833
Singapore and Malacca -	3,662,973	4,311,891	3,288,914	5,292,557
Total - -	46,369,873	42,289,573	48,696,237	43,856,509

Value.

163. The value of the imports and exports in 1887 and 1888, respectively, of a few staple articles of commerce are shown below:—

Articles.	1887.		1888.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$	$	$
Grain and flour - -	5,358,415	4,137,436	4,776,436	4,252,137
Opium - - -	1,842,798	1,621,533	2,041,495	1,895,856
Chandu - - -	5,600	2,950	1,950	1,790
Spices - - -	3,764,791	4,854,196	3,770,816	4,400,309
Sugar - - - -	102,538	1,315,656	93,795	1,130,634
Tobacco and cigars - -	1,966,509	1,159,271	1,182,016	1,476,798
Tin - - - -	11,192.649	12,440,532	11,867,282	14,476,934

GOVERNMENT ENGINEER SURVEYOR.

164. Mr. J. N. Dick was appointed to be Government Engineer Surveyor in the month of April 1888.

165. The surveys of steam vessels held during the year was 104.

166. Seventy-nine inspections of boilers on land, under "The "Steam Boilers Ordinance 1876," were made.

167. Examinations for engineers' certificates were held during the year as follows:—

For chief engineers' certificates - -	6
„ 2nd class do. - -	3
„ engine-drivers for steam vessels - -	7
„ „ „ launches, 1st class -	7
„ „ „ launches, 2nd class -	18
	41

168. Twenty-three examinations of engine-drivers for engines on land (Steam Boilers Ordinance 1876) were held, namely, fourteen for 2nd class and nine for 3rd class certificate.

169. The cost of the department was $2,741.59, and the receipts in fees amounted to $1,857.50.

CURRENCY.

Bank Imports of Specie.

170. The following statement has been compiled from returns of the imports of specie in 1887 and 1888, with which the managers of the banks have kindly furnished me:—

Imports, 1887 and 1888.	Mexican Dollars.	Spanish Pillar Dollars.	Japanese Yens.	Total.
1887.	$	$	$	$
Europe - - -	1,860,030	—	—	1,860,030
China - - -	615,400	6,200	230,000	815,600
Japan - - -	—	—	3,168,000	3,168,000
Singapore - -	100,000	47,830	200,000	347,830
America - - -	60,000	—	—	60,000
Manila - - -	—	302,700	—	302,700
India - - -	—	25,700	—	25,700
Netherlands India -	—	18,000	—	18,000
Total - -	2,635,430	400,430	3,598,000	6,633,860

Imports, 1887 and 1888.	Mexican Dollars.	Spanish Pillar Dollars.	Japanese Yens.	Total.
1888.				
Europe - - -	2,240,786	5,327	—	2,246,113
China - - -	472,338	15,000	—	487,338
Japan - - -	—	—	1,128,800	1,128,800
Singapore - -	425,000	81,376	272,000	778,376
Manila - - -	—	188,500	—	188,500
India - - -	—	99,332	—	99,332
Total - -	3,138,124	389,535	1,400,800	4,928,459

Bank Notes.

171. The bank note circulation of the three banks in Penang at the close of 1888 amounted to $2,440,965 as against $2,732,890 at the close of 1887. The certified amount of the specie reserve on December 31st, 1888, was $1,050,000 as against $1,440,000 at the end of the previous year.

POST OFFICE.

Postal Business.

172. The business of the Penang Post Office for 1887 and 1888 under three headings—Post Office proper, Money Order Office and Savings Bank—is shown in the subjoined tables:—

Post Office business.	1887.		1888.	
	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.
Letters and Post Cards -	321,899	276,167	422,647	344,794
Newspapers - - -	81,004	29,794	118,052	39,081
Books, &c. - - -	18,350	11,519	18,908	13,802
Total - -	421,253	317,480	559,607	397,677

Money Order business.	1887.		1888.	
	Issued.	Paid.	Issued.	Paid.
	$	$	$	$
Local - - - -	4,189	1,749	3,136.29	1,413.19
Native States - - -	738	14,983	1,176.00	18,307.13
India - - -	34,902	1,272	32,292.18	1,450.18
Australia and Mauritius -	2,586	112	60.65	229.88
United Kingdom - -	6,623	590	7,122.97	753.21
Total - -	49,038	18,706	43,778.09	22,153.59

Savings Bank.	1887.	1888.
Accounts opened - - - -	133	112
Accounts closed - - - -	229	87
Accounts open at the end of the year -	207	232
	$	$
Deposited during the year - - -	23,990	22,819.93
Repaid during the year - - -	19,526	21,245.92
Interest credited to depositors - -	1,145	1,359.68
Balance due to depositors at the close of the year - - - - - -	28,641	31,562.46

173. The steamers of the Messageries Maritimes do not call at Penang: Penang correspondence, therefore, carried by the French mail, has to be sent *viâ* Singapore, greatly to the disadvantage of Penang trade. In 1884, negotiations which took place between the General Post Office, London, and the Directors of the Messageries Maritimes, with a view to a mail contract in which Penang would be included as a port of call, proved unsuccessful. In 1883 the Straits Government invited tenders for a regular mail service between Singapore and Penang in connexion with the French mail boats, but, for lack of suitable tenders, or for some other reason, this scheme came to nothing. It has now been found possible, by taking advantage of the fortnightly trips of the steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company, from the Straits to Negapatam, to despatch a fortnightly mail homeward, *viâ* Bombay, and the agents of the steamers have very obligingly so fixed the dates of the despatch of their vessels from Singapore and Penang as to connect with the Bombay mail.

174. From the point of view of the Post Office there is a weak point in this arrangement, namely, that it depends upon the good

will of the steamer owners and is not governed by a contract. But, against this, it is to be remarked that no mail subsidy is paid, but merely the usual bounty, and that the agents (Messrs. Huttenbach, Liebert & Co.) have all along evinced a public spirited interest in the development of this mail route.

175. There is reason to hope, therefore, that the Penang public will derive as much benefit from it as if their interests were secured by contract, while if for any reason the regular running of these steamers should be interrupted, the Straits-Negapatam-Bombay mail service will have received a trial, and useful experience will have been gained.

176. I regret to say that, as far as the personnel of the office is concerned, the Penang Post Office has been in anything but a satisfactory state in 1888. During the absence of Mr. N. Trotter, Assistant Postmaster General, on leave, Mr. G. T. Batty, who was appointed to act for him, admittedly made use, for private purposes, of public money in his hands. He was suspended from duty and tried in the Supreme Court, where, after two trials, he was acquitted of criminality.

177. Suprayen, Sub-Postmaster, Nibong Tebal, was tried for criminal breach of trust in appropriating money paid to him by the transmitter of a money order, and sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment.

178. Mahomed Sultan, a postman, was tried for cheating by removing stamps from a letter and charging the addressee double postage. J. G. Rozells, stamp vendor, was dismissed for unsatisfactory conduct.

179. The postal revenue of 1888 fell short of that for 1887 by $1,296.98, a deficit not easily explained when the returns show that the business of the Department has largely increased.

180. The Acting Assistant Postmaster General (Mr. W. Dragon), who took charge of the office on November 1st, suggests several reasons for the deficiency, namely, the reduction of postage on letters to Australia,* the abolition of postage on local newspapers,† the reduction of postage in the Imperial parcel post,‡ decreased communication with India, and the supply of stamps to Pérak by the Singapore, instead of the Penang, Post Office. Of these, only the last seems to me to contribute substantially to an explanation of the deficiency remarked on. In 1888 stamps to the value of $80 only were sold by the Penang Post Office to the Pérak Government, whereas in 1887 the receipts from this source amounted to $2,208.§

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* From the 1st October, Government notification 546 of 1888.

† From the 1st July, Government notification 388 of 1888.

‡ From the 1st August, Government notification 421 of 1888.

§ Since this was written, circumstances have been brought to light which indicate a possibility that part of the deficiency is due to fraud. If this is so, the system has been to remove stamps from native letters addressed to coast ports replacing them by used stamps, of which the parties to the fraud (employés in the Post Office) kept a stock.

181. The re-establishment of a Chinese Post Office in Penang, conducted on the same principles as the Singapore Office, was satisfactorily arranged for before the end of the year, and business began on the 1st of January 1889. In order to avoid misunderstanding, I held three or four meetings of the Chinese traders who conduct private post offices for the transmission of Chinese correspondence between Penang and China, and whose interests are necessarily affected by the change. The Postmaster General (on inspection duty from Singapore) was present on one of these occasions. For the new office of Chinese Sub-Postmaster I selected Mr. Khoo Chin Kay, a native of Penang, who was educated in the Free School.

182. I am of opinion that the staff of the Post Office will have to be materially strengthened before the Department can be said to be upon a satisfactory footing.

TELEGRAPHS.

183. The following tables show the number of messages received and despatched in 1888 :—

Messages received.

Stations.	Messages.	Words.
Penang - - - -	5,692	95,489
Butterworth - - -	879	20,370
Bukit Tambun - - -	774	18,558
Nibong Tebal - - -	843	15,742
Total - -	8,188	150,159

Messages despatched.

Stations.	Messages.	Words.
Penang - - - -	5,939	109,540
Butterworth - - -	1,448	31,275
Bukit Tambun - - -	883	16,416
Nibong Tebal - - -	1,120	17,479
Total - -	9,390	174,710

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Supreme Court.

184. The following statement shows the number of days on which the court sat in 1888 compared with similar statistics for 1887. Each day on which two judges presided in separate courts is reckoned as two days, and the days on which the judges sat together in appeal are excluded:—

	1887.	1888.
On the criminal side - -	114	89
On the civil side - - -	199	285
On the ecclesiastical side - -	34	74
Total - -	347	448

185. The registrar sat as a judge for the hearing of ecclesiastical cases on 36 days, the same number as in 1887.

186. The criminal cases tried in 1887 and 1888 were as follows:—

	Numbers of Prisoners.			
	1887.		1888.	
	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
Murder - - - -	—	5	5	4
Attempt to murder - -	5	2	6	1
Manslaughter - - -	16	11	2	—
Grievous hurt by means of an instrument for cutting.	8	12	11	—
Other offences against the person -	19	11	19	10
Robbery with violence - -	39	31	14	5
Theft and housebreaking - -	48	25	21	12
Other offences against property -	19	8	12	7
Miscellaneous - - -	24	8	12	11
Total - -	178	113	102	50
	291		152	

187. The business on the civil, ecclesiastical, and bankruptcy sides of the court during 1888 is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Civil Actions.						Probate and Administration.		Debtors' Summonses and Bankruptcy Cases.	
	Pending from previous year.	Commenced.	Debt or Damage claimed.	Compromised, dismissed, &c.	Adjudicated.	Pending at close of year.	No.	Amount.	Debtors' Summonses.	Bankruptcy Cases.
			$					$		
1886 - - -	1,002	704	411,328	281	791	634	659	721,756	2	5
1887 - - -	634	737	528,061	689	381	301	1,065	566,657	2	6
1888 - - -	301	1,024	573,978	291	347	687	464	542,607	Nil.	7

188. The fact that the number of criminal cases which came before the Supreme Court in 1888 is little more than one half of the number tried in 1887 is explained by the establishment of regular fortnightly sittings of Courts of Quarter Sessions. Two stipendiary magistrates constitute the court, and have power to award sentences of imprisonment up to one year and fine up to $500. The business of these courts has materially lightened the work of the assizes at the Supreme Court.

189. There appears to be reason to think that it would be equally advantageous and economical to entrust some of the minor civil business to tribunals of less importance than the Supreme Court. The pecuniary limit of the jurisdiction of the Court of Requests is $50. All suits in which the matter in dispute exceeds that sum must go to the Supreme Court.

190. Officers of experience in the Civil Service preside for years over Police Courts (where they cannot award more than six months' imprisonment and a fine of $100), and in Small Cause Courts with a $50 jurisdiction. This, in view of the extensive powers given to subordinate officers in other places, seems to be a waste of power.

191. The administration of justice in the Colony and Native States would, I believe, be benefited if the judges were to be relieved of some of the minor work of the Supreme Court, undertaking instead some of the important judicial work of the Native States and appellate work there. Further assistance is required

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in the Registrar's Office. One registrar and one deputy registrar cannot efficiently carry on the business of two courts with two judges constantly sitting. A second deputy registrar is required.

192. The figures relating to the business of the ecclesiastical side of the Supreme Court in 1888 suggest certain remarks in explanation. In 1886 the number of applications for probate and letters of administration was 659, the value of the property sworn to being $721,756. In 1887, owing to circumstances which I shall presently explain, the number of applications suddenly rose to 1,065, though the value of the estates only aggregated $566,657.

193. Many of the estates must have been of trifling value, for the average value was only $532, as against $1,095 in 1886.

194. In 1888 the number of applications sank again to 464; but the sums sworn to aggregated $542,607, close upon the amount sworn to in 1887, when applications were so numerous. This shows indisputably that the applications, which so suddenly swelled the business of the ecclesiastical side of the court in 1887 and disappeared again in 1888, were made in respect of small peasant holdings of very small value.

195. The sudden increase in 1887 was due to the action of Government in threatening to enforce generally section 18 of the Stamp Ordinance of 1885, which provides a penalty of $500 in case of any one taking possession of and administering the estate of a deceased person without taking out probate or letters of administration within six months after the decease. The panic had worn off by 1888, and the number of applications fell again.

196. As an additional reason for a diminution in the number of applications, the Registrar of the Supreme Court (Mr. J. A. Harwood) points out that fees having been reduced, "unautho-
" rised agents are now less interested than before the passing of
" the District Delegates Ordinance that such applications should
" be made."

197. The District Delegates Ordinance 1887," by which power is given to issue probate and letters of administration in uncontested cases, in country districts, where the estate is sworn under $500, has not yet been extensively employed (letters of administration were issued by district delegates in 11 cases only). But, as land revenue settlement proceeds, the new powers of the district officers will, I have no doubt, become better known among the native population, with the result that local applications will be more numerous.

198. One feature of the Ordinance is the relief given to the next-of-kin of deceased persons by the reduction of fees where the value of the estate is small. The fees received in probate and administration cases in 1888 was less by $4,000 than the amount collected under the same head in 1887.

MINOR COURTS.

Police Courts and Courts of Requests.

199. The following statements give particulars of the business done in the courts:—

Police Courts.	1887. Committed for Trial.	Convicted or bound over.	Discharged.	Undecided.	Total.
George Town	203	10,407	5,157	130	15,897
Balik Pulau	7	135	324	—	466
Relau	4	95	69	2	170
Butterworth	42	1,466	609	15	2,132
Penaga	3	226	189	7	425
Bukit Tambun	14	893	322	2	1,231
Nibong Tebal	5	771	246	6	1,029
Bukit Mertâjam	12	686	467	12	1,177
Marine Magistrate	—	68	8	—	76

(*continued.*)

Police Courts.	1888. Committed for Trial.	Convicted or bound over.	Discharged.	Undecided.	Total.
George Town	94	11,347	6,441	155	18,037*
Balik Pulau	13	293	458	—	764
Relau	5	164	45	—	214
Butterworth	23	988	428	34	1,443
Penaga	4	133	180	11	318
Bukit Tambun / Nibong Tebal	6	1,368	537	18	1,929
Bukit Mertâjam	17	1,404	574	24	2,019
Marine Magistrate	—	104	37	—	141

* Fourteen extradition cases.

Court of Requests. (Jurisdiction up to $50.)	1887. No. of Cases.	1887. Amount of Debt or Damages.	1888. No. of Cases.	1888. Amount of Debt or Damages.
		$ c.		$ c.
George Town	2,968	38,232 32	3,747	38,266 90
Balik Pulau	31	518 57	57	931 04
Relau	51	582 07	49	650 16
Butterworth	262	3,880 53	169	1,967 14
Penaga	99	1,427 49	84	914 32
Bukit Tambun	86	1,250 94	90	1,381 02
Nibong Tebal	109	1,210 67	145	2,283 21½
Bukit Mertâjam	107	1,167 19	183	2,680 18

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200. The increasing work of the minor courts makes it necessary to consider seriously the necessity of appointing a third magistrate. In the nine years preceding and including 1886 the average number of cases which came before the town police magistrates in a year was 8,113, and the average number of persons charged in a year was 11,878. In 1887 and 1888 the figures were as follows:—

	Cases.	Persons charged.
1887 - - - -	10,634	15,901
1888 - - - -	12,590	18,052

Again, the work of the magistrates in trying quarter sessions cases (*see* para. 188) has been increased to the extent shown in the following return:—

	No. of cases heard.	No. of persons charged.
1885 - - - -	1	1
1886 - - - -	1	1
1887 - - - -	7	7
1888 - - - -	119	206

Against this there is the fact that the work of the magistrates in investigating charges for committal to the assizes has fallen as follows:—

	Preliminary Investigations held.	No. of persons charged.
1885 - - - -	135	194
1886 - - - -	148	208
1887 - - - -	129	203
1888 - - - -	69	94

But, on the whole, there is a great increase of work, and without a third magistrate there is no one to carry on the business if a magistrate is ill or absent.

Coroners.

201. Coroners' inquests to the number of 189 were held during the year, against 240 in 1887.

The following statement gives particulars of the verdicts:—

	1887.			1888.		
	Penang.	Province Wellesley.	Total.	Penang.	Province Wellesley.	Total.
Homicide, culpable, amounting to murder -	6	20	26	2	2	4
Do. culpable, not amounting to murder - - - - -	4	2	6	2	1	3
Do. through rash and negligent act -	2	3	5	1	—	1
Do. justifiable - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do. by misadventure - - -	1	—	1	—	1	1
Felo-de-se - - - - - -	5	14	19	6	7	13
Self-destruction under temporary insanity -	3	—	3	4	1	5
Death in pursuance of judicial sentence -	—	—	—	2	—	2
Natural causes, accidental death, &c. -	110	70	180	102	58	160
Total - - - - -	131	109	240	119	70	189

202. The figures given under the first three of the above headings bear out what is said in paragraph 209 as to the comparative freedom of the Settlement from serious crime in 1888. Suicides, it will be seen, were less numerous than in 1887, and were less than half the number which occurred in 1886.

POLICE.

Strength and Distribution.

203. The strength and distribution of the police force at the end of the year were as follows:—

Officers.—Superintendent (Mr. R. W. Maxwell) and an assistant superintendent (Mr. W. A. Cuscaden) in Penang, and an assistant superintendent (Mr. E. Hogge) in Province Wellesley.

Inspectors.—Five inspectors in Penang and four in Province Wellesley.

European Contingent.—Three sergeants and 24 constables.

Sikh Contingent.—Two sergeants, two corporals, and 60 constables.

Malay and Kling Contingent.—One sergeant-major, eight sergeants, 28 corporals, and 427 constables in Penang, and one

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sergeant-major, six sergeants, 18 corporals, and 229 constables in Province Wellesley.

Distribution.	Stations.	Europeans.	Sikhs.	Malays and Klings.
Penang.				
Municipality - - -	14	29	65	360
North-east District - - -	4	—	—	26
South-west District - - -	9	2	—	81
Province Wellesley.				
Northern District - - -	9	1	—	66
Central District - - -	8	2	—	121
Southern District - - -	7	2	—	70

Police Stations.

204. Two new stations built in 1887, at Permatang Damar Laut and Pulau Kra, respectively, were occupied in February, and a new station was built during 1888 at Ara Kuda in Province Wellesley, a district where cultivation is extending and population increasing.

Conduct and Discipline.

205. The superintendent (Mr. R. W. Maxwell) reports favourably of all his officers.

Inspectors and European Contingent.

206. It was a marked advantage in 1888 that there were but few changes among the inspectors, who are reported to be generally efficient and to have worked well. The European Contingent was brought up to its proper strength by the arrival of two drafts of constables from England.

Sikh Contingent.

207. This branch of the force continues to be used for guard and escort duty only. They are quartered in Fort Cornwallis and form a valuable reserve force.

Malays and Klings.

208. An increase of 50 men was made to this branch—the main body—of the force in 1888. But little difficulty is experienced in Penang in obtaining recruits of fair physique. Smartness, however, is very slowly acquired. "The short-comings of "the native constable," the superintendent says, "are due to the "easy-going ways of the non-commissioned officers."

Crimes.

209. The Settlement was signally free from serious crime in 1888. "The wholesome severity" of the Supreme Court in dealing with gang-robbers, remarked on last year, has had, it is believed, a salutary deterrent effect. Materials for trouble are, however, always at hand in the more remote coast villages and in the north of Province Wellesley, and vigilance on the part of the police is always necessary. The telephone has been found to be of the greatest use in contributing to the arrest of criminals. Offenders escaping with stolen property have, on some occasions, been seized at places many miles distant from the scene of the offence, the police having been warned by telephone of the occurrence.

Fire Brigade.

210. Ordinance IX. of 1887 having cast on the Municipal Commissioners the duty of the prevention of fires within the Municipality, the superintendent of police was during the year appointed to be the superintendent of the fire brigade. No volunteer or paid fire brigade exists, and the duties were, in all cases, performed by the police. The Municipal Commissioners purchased a new steam fire-engine, and the superintendent reports that the whole force (except the Sikh Contingent) went through a course of instruction in fire-engine duties.

Dindings.

211. The police establishment at Pangkor has been added to the Penang command.

Public Gaming.

212. No special branch of the police force is detailed, as in Singapore, for the suppression of gaming.

It is the business of all police officers equally to put it down, and the Penang police have, it is believed, been successful in putting down all gaming on a large scale. The cases in 1888 were as follows :—

Number of cases - - - -	336
Number of persons - - -	1,415
Convicted - - - -	1,029
Acquitted - - - -	386
Fines imposed - - -	$10,974

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213. The number of reports of offences made at police stations and of cases discovered in 1887 and 1888, respectively, were as follows :—

	1887.	1888.
Reported - - - -	5,538	5,663
Discovered - - - -	3,702	3,918

Disturbances beyond the Frontier.

214. Riots between two factions of Chinese, attended by loss of life and destruction of property, occurred in June in the mining district of Kulim in Kedah territory. The Hui-Chin Chinese successfully expelled the Teo-Chius from the mines and plantations occupied by them, and the disturbances threatened at one time to spread into Province Wellesley. A singular feature about these riots was that the combatants of both factions belonged to the same secret society, the "Ghi Hin" Hoey. The Raja of Kedah sent a body of about 1,500 Malays under Tunku Yakub to the disturbed district, and some of the principal offenders were secured and taken to Kedah for trial. It was not until December that the result of the proceedings was made known. Three persons were executed, and thirteen were sentenced to imprisonment for life, and forfeiture of property, subject to subsequent modification of the sentence in the Raja's discretion. The promptitude of the Kedah Government in sending reinforcements to the disturbed district is much to be commended.

215. During the latter half of 1888, therefore, Kulim was in a more or less disturbed state, and during June and July special police precautions had to be taken in Province Wellesley, a temporary post being established on the frontier and a small detachment of Sikhs being stationed at Bukit Mertajam. Refugees from Kulim flocked into British territory, and the possibility of further fighting attracted lawless characters from all parts of Province Wellesley. No serious breach of the peace occurred, however, in British territory.

PRISONS.

Colonial Possessions Report No. 24, [C.—5249-21]. p. 36.

216. No change has taken place in the disciplinary system of the Penang Prison. For hours of work and for the scale of diets, I beg that reference may be made to my Administration Report for 1887.

Staff.

217. Mr. Kynnersley, Superintendent of Prisons, was succeeded in November by Mr. Merewether. The prison has been under

the direct control of Mr. T. Lamb, gaoler, who has maintained order and discipline efficiently with the aid of a competent staff of European warders. I regret that the native warders continue to be described as a class not to be depended on and requiring very strict supervision.

Accommodation.

218. There are 296 separate cells, and the daily average of prisoners in 1888 was 320·58, against 326·11 in 1887. But the accommodation is ample, for many of the prisoners are confined for trifling offences for very short terms. There can be no objection to the use of association wards for prisoners of this class.

Committals and Discharges.

219. On the 1st of January 1888 there remained in the prison 334 prisoners, namely 7 Europeans, 184 Chinese, 43 Malays, and 100 Klings. In 1888 3,750 persons were admitted, of whom 37 were European and Eurasian, 1,634 Chinese, 271 Malays, and 1,808 Klings.

Committals for Twelve Years.

220. The following return shows that a marked increase in the number of committals, which began in 1886, still continues:—

1877 - - - - -	2,181
1878 - - - - -	2,873
1879 - - - - -	2,542
1880 - - - - -	2,511
1881 - - - - -	1,717
1882 - - - - -	1,824
1883 - - - - -	1,782
1884 - - - - -	1,965
1885 - - - - -	2,490
1886 - - - - -	2,925
1887 - - - - -	3,085
1888 - - - - -	3,750

Statute Immigrants.

221. Of the prisoners committed in 1888 1,191, or nearly one-third, were coolies from the sugar and tapioca estates in Province Wellesley, punished for offences against the labour law.

Long-sentence Prisoners.

222. Prisoners sentenced to upwards of six months' imprisonment are sent to the Singapore Prison to undergo their sentences. For four months in 1888, however, the usual transfer of long-sentence prisoners was stopped, with the result that, for the time, the cellular accommodation was found insufficient.

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Civil Prison.

223. There were 43 prisoners in the Civil Prison on the 1st of January 1888. The admissions were as follows :—

Sentenced to simple imprisonment - -	172
Committed for trial - - -	120
For safe custody, on remand - -	676
Debtors - - - - -	26
	994

Capital Sentences.

224. Five prisoners were condemned to death. In one case the sentence was carried into effect.

Prison Ward at the Pauper Hospital.

225. The scheme for committing prisoners certified to be unfit for hard labour to a special ward in the Pauper Hospital was definitely abandoned, and the ward constructed in 1887 was occupied as an ordinary pauper ward.

Proposed House of Correction.

Province Wellesley.

Colonial Possessions Report No. 24.

226. The proposal made in para. 121 of my Administration Report for 1887 came under the consideration of Government in 1888 but no decision has yet been arrived at.

227. The estates employing Indian labour, which contributed 1,191 prisoners to the Penang Prison in 1888, and 967 in 1887, are situated as considerable distances apart, and, in order to really economise the labour now expended in escorting these coolies to and from prison, it might be necessary to establish a small local prison in connexion with each district office. The subject awaits further consideration.

228. I have urged upon the Government the establishment of one or more coolie prisons in Province Wellesley (where a gang of prisoners could be employed upon the roads or other works), because I believe that punishment carried out locally would have a specially deterrent effect.

229. The defaulter would be put to hard labour within the sight of labourers of his own class, he would serve his full time, part of which is now occupied in travelling to and from Penang, and the district officer would be more likely to proportion punishment to offences. Under the present system there is reason to believe that some coolie prisoners undergo no real punishment at all.

Reformatory.

230. The proposed establishment of a reformatory or industrial school has also been under discussion, but no definite action has been resolved on. The number of boys of 15 and under who were committed to prison in 1888 was 62, and the number of youthful criminals whipped at the police courts was 74.

EDUCATION.

231. On the 31st December 1888 the number of Malay vernacular boys' schools open was 60, viz., 23 in Penang and 37 in Province Wellesley.

232. The number of teachers employed was 123, and the aggregate number of pupils at the end of the year was 3,078.

233. There are six vernacular schools for girls in Penang Island and two in Province Wellesley. The number of pupils in these schools at the end of the year was 267.

234. The following statement gives particulars of the enrolment and attendance at all schools in 1886 and 1887 and the "passes" obtained at the annual Government examination :—

Schools.	1887.					1888.				
	No. of Schools.	Average Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Presented for Examination.	Per-centage of Passes.	No. of Schools.	Average Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Presented for Examination.	Per-centage of Passes.
Free School - - -	1	473	397	384	69	1	443	378	368	76
St. Xavier's Institution -	1	292	248	186	86	1	278	241	170	92
Pulau Tikus Mission School -	1	91	80	56	89	1	79	70	60	93
Government English School -	1	256	230	176	94	1	234	211	170	87
Vernacular Schools :—										
Penang - - -	23	2,672	2,374	1,068	82	23	2,700	2,314	1,025	83
Province Wellesley - -	34			870	74	37			963	69
Tamil Mission School - -	1	38	28	25	92	1	36	28	17	75
Convent Girls' School - -	1	295	262	116	96	1	296	280	132	93
St. George's Girls' School -	1	53	43·2	35	92	1	59	47·1	34	92
Vernacular Girls' School, Penang.	5	215	247	126	73	6	265	227	139	81
Vernacular Girls School, Province Wellesley.	—	—	—	—	—	2				
Tamil Mission Girls' School -	1	9	8	6	83	1	8	7	7	70

235. Mr. Jacobson, Superintendent of Education, left Penang in May 1888 to take up the Acting Appointment of Inspector of Schools, Straits Settlements, and the superintendence of the

vernacular schools in their respective districts was placed under the district officers, the office-work of the department being carried on by Mr. Brockman, passed cadet, attached to the Resident Councillor's Office.

236. One result of this arrangement has been a great reduction in the transport expenditure, only $670.81 having been expended under this head in the Education Department in 1888, as against $1,040.27 in 1887.

237. The Free School, which is the principal English school in Penang, is governed by a committee, and is supported by the interest of invested capital, by an annual Government grant, and by fees received from the parents and guardians of pupils. The staff of English masters when complete is seven. Under the advice of the Government the committee raised the school-fee in 1888 to $1 per pupil per month, the fee chargeable at the Government English Branch School being simultaneously raised.

238. The falling off in the enrolment of pupils at the Free School (443 in 1888 against 473 in 1887) is to be regretted; but if it is attributable in any way to the raising of the school-fee, it would not appear that the value attached to an English education by the Chinese community of Penang is great.

239. When the Chinese community was much less wealthy than at present, and when the European community was more proportionately important, the Free School was in a great measure supported by the subscriptions and donations of European residents. The charges for schooling were originally three dollars, two dollars, or one dollar a month, according to the circumstances of the parents or guardians of a pupil.

240. I regret to say that the remarks I have made in paras. 28 and 29, in regard to the Pauper Hospital, apply, in a great measure, to the Free School. The more wealthy and influential Chinese (some of whom, owing to the liberality of former European residents, have received a cheap education at the Free School, while others have sons there) hold aloof from the management of the school, and subscriptions and donations have almost ceased. The school staff, however, is reasonably efficient, and the education given (as far as it goes) is excellent.

GENERAL.

Resident Councillor's Office.

241. Mr. R. C. Jacobson acted as secretary to the Resident Councillor, in addition to his own duties as Superintendent of Education, until the 8th May, when he was succeeded by Mr. E. L. Brockman, passed cadet. The work to be performed corresponds to that which is entrusted in Singapore to an Assistant Colonial Secretary, and, in my opinion, an assistant resident is required in Penang if the Resident Councillor is to retain the office of President of the Municipal Commissioners.

242. The Chinese Protectorate is not, as I venture to think it ought to be, a branch of the Resident Councillor's Office—a link

between the Chinese population and the head of the local Government. The time and attention of the two officers of the civil service attached to this department are too exclusively occupied by the superintendence of coolie emigration (see supra. para. 71) and the protection of women and girls (Ordinance XIV. of 1888). With the abolition of Chinese secret societies it will be more than ever necessary to strengthen this department and make it into a Chinese Secretariat. Considering that the cost of the present establishment is covered by the fees paid by Sumatra planters (supra, para. 75), the appointment of at least one influential Chinese-speaking official for general duties would seem to be justified.

District Administration.

243. Towards the end of the year a scheme was sanctioned under which each district office becomes a sub-treasury, the necessity of bringing revenue to town weekly and of periodically sending money to the districts for the payment of establishments being thus avoided.

244. In other ways, also, the district office system has received further development. The improvement of the villages in their respective districts has been entrusted to the district officers, who will perform, in respect of such villages, some of the functions of the Municipal Commissioners of a town. A sum of $6,000 was voted (to be expended in 1889) for "Village Conservancy—Cleaning, Lighting, and providing Water, &c. to Villages."

British Consular Jurisdiction in Coast States North of Penang.

245. The Resident Councillor of Penang has been appointed to be British Consul for Kedah, Perlis, Setul, Trang, Ghirbi, Pungah, Puket, Takopah and Renong.

Residency.

246. A house for the Resident Councillor was commenced during the year. An excellent site has been chosen close to the Infantry lines, and it is hoped that the building will be nearly completed in 1889.

Chinese Temple, Pitt Street.

247. A question having arisen as to the government of the principal Chinese temple of the town, erected on a piece of land which was granted "to the Chinese community" in 1838, a supplementary grant was issued in 1888 entrusting the management to twenty Chinese trustees, ten being Hok-kien and ten Cantonese. The settlement of this matter appears to have given general satisfaction to the Chinese community.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

Extension of Hill Roads.

248. By the construction in 1888 of a new bridle-road, connecting the roads on the main range with the Balik Pulau hill-road (Low's Pass), communication has been opened between Government Hill and the Western portion of the island, and a considerable extent of hill country in the vicinity of Mount Elvira has been made accessible.

Steam Launch Service, Province Wellesley.

249. I regret to have to report that the mail service between Penang and Butterworth, which, under a contract made between the Government and Mr. Ebert, was to have commenced on 1st June 1888, had not been started at the end of the year owing to delay on the part of the Contractor.

Pepper Cultivation.

250. The cultivation of pepper, which, in the early days of the Settlement, was one of the chief industries of the island, is being taken up again, and, if successful, should give large profits, for the price of the article is high and the inhabitants of a free port can compete with advantage with planters in Achin (Sumatra) an. Trang (west coast, Malay Peninsula), who have to pay an export duty. Small plantations in Penang Island promise well. In Province Wellesley, where a small colony of Achinese pepper-cultivators established themselves about ten years ago (see Penang Administration Reports, 1881, 1882 and 1883*), pepper planting has much extended. But the Achinese settlers did not prove readily amenable to revenue regulations. Up to 1888 they had paid nothing whatever for the land occupied by them, though they had cleared and occupied five times the area allowed to them. Settlement, however, has now been insisted on, and payment of a premium of $6 per acre, and an annual rent of 50 cents an acre has been exacted. Each cultivator's lot has been demarcated.

Wharf and Warehouse Accommodation.

251. A sum of $20,000 which appeared in the Estimates for 1888 under the heading of "Works and Buildings—Goods Landing Accommodation at Church Street" was not spent during the year, for no consensus of opinion was arrived at as to what are the real requirements of the trade of Penang in regard to landing and shipping facilities. Nothing can well be worse than the present system, under which goods consigned to mercantile firms in Penang are landed in open lighters from steamers in the roads and hoisted ashore at some temporary sheds, owned by the Municipal Commissioners, and standing upon ground which must shortly be cleared for a street. These sheds are rented from the Municipal Commissioners by a company, who land and ship goods at certain charges

* No. 13 in [C.—3642] June 1883; No. 15 in [C.—4015] May 1884; No. 18 in [C.—4404] May 1885.

The removal of these temporary warehouses is only a question of months, and European trade must suffer, unless accommodation for the landing and shipping of goods be furnished by Government, by the Municipal Commissioners, or by private enterprise. I have strongly urged that this opportunity should be taken to establish, under legislative enactment, a harbour improvement commission, the duties and powers of which have been indicated in a draft Bill submitted to Government. If this proposal be ultimately adopted, a certain extent of valuable foreshore, now the property of the Crown, will be vested in Commissioners, with power in them to reclaim it and sell it in lots and apply the proceeds in harbour works. With a concession of this nature it would be equally possible, I doubt not, to find gentlemen of influence willing to establish a company and find the necessary capital for the erection and working of wharves and warehouses.

252. But if Penang is to keep her trade, her harbour facilities should be in keeping with modern requirements, and they now scarcely exceed those of a purely native port. The development of the Native States creates new markets for British commerce and new investments for British capital. The demands upon Penang (which is the centre of the commerce of the north-west portion of the Malay Peninsula) for new accommodation of all kinds in connexion with mercantile business must increase in proportion. It is to be hoped that this duty will be appreciated before commerce, hampered by inadequate provision for its wants, gradually drifts away to ports more favoured by nature or better developed by foresight and enterprise.

253. It is a mistake to suppose that Penang trade is on the decline, because the relative importance of English and Chinese firms has in the last ten years undergone some modification. In spite of great disadvantages, consisting chiefly in the want of proper landing and shipping accommodation for goods, Penang trade exhibits a very marked vitality, and the ratio of increase of shipping and commerce in recent years is even more remarkable in Penang than in Singapore. The following returns show what I mean:—

Shipping, Penang.

(Native craft excluded.)

1878 - 3,140 vessels measuring 1,765,112 tons.
1888 - 5,174 „ „ „ 2,928,364 „
Increase, 51 per cent.

Singapore.

1878 - 4,333 vessels, measuring 3,120,792 tons.
1888 - 7,562 „ „ „ 5,796,429 „
Increase, 74 per cent.*

* The French and German mail-steamers do not call at Penang. Their tonnage figures in the Singapore returns.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

Trade, Penang.

	$
1882 - - - -	49,428,386
1888 - - - -	92,552,746

Increase, 87 per cent.

Singapore.

	$
1882 - - - -	135,536,436
1888 - - - -	195,255,576

Increase, 44 per cent.

W. E. MAXWELL,
Acting Resident Councillor.

Resident Councillor's Office,
Penang, 17th April 1889.

MALACCA.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, MALACCA, 1888.

Revenue.

1. The revenue for 1888 shows, as will be seen by the annexed table, which gives the revenue for the past three years, an increase of $44,520.26 over that of 1887.

	1886.		1887.		1888.	
	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.
Land - - - -	63,896	76	75,210	61	117,383	93
Rents, exclusive of land -	1,179	84	927	46	780	28
Licenses - - -	192,360	00	192,360	00	192,360	00
Stamps - - - -	13,804	16	14,883	55	11,622	32
Port and harbour dues - -	1,610	23	2,071	42	2,201	05
Postage - - - -	2,410	51	2,287	07	2,834	35
Fines, &c. - - -	3,225	55	4,574	48	5,415	62
Fees of office - -	2,046	32	1,921	25	1,567	77
Reimbursements - -	8,143	69	9,032	56	9,606	69
Sale of Government property -	165	76	126	40	214	47
Interest - - - -	2,740	41	2,149	84	1,368	10
Miscellaneous - - -	3	00	20	16	518	54
Special receipts - - -	1,073	80	1,199	00	10	00
District collections - -	—		—		5,400	94
Total - -	292,660	03	306,763	80	351,284	06

2. Almost all of this is due to increased land collections, and will be explained in detail under the heading of "Land Revenue."

3. The balance of the increase is due partly to the steady increase under "Port and Harbour Dues," "Postage" and "Reimbursements," and partly to increases under heads which must always manifest a fluctuating tendency, such as "Fines, &c.," "Sale of Government Property" and "Miscellaneous."

4. On the other hand, there are decreases under the following heads—"Stamps," "Interest," and "Special Receipts," which will be dealt with in their proper places.

5. The following figures present a detailed statement of the land revenue for the past three years, showing the various items in respect of which collections are made:—

Area of Land under Leases.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
Acres - - - -	100,314	96,817	77,519
Gross rent - - -	$ 56,092	$ 58,092	$ 58,334

Land Revenue Receipts detailed.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$ c.
Premium - - -	2,619	3,357	14,822 85
Rents, current - - -	50,077	59,619	76,141 21
Do. arrears - - -	2,750	2,754	16,840 41
Tenths, coral and granite -	355	292	311 38
,, tin - - -	493	661	376 81
,, brick-kiln - -	188	160	423 00
,, padi - - -	3,231	4,128	3,286 17
,, wood-oil - -	548	464	242 92
,, gambier - -	302	113	120 98
,, tapioca - - -	657	117	71 75
,, fruit - - -	907	1,384	1,598 22
,, timber - - -	928	913	1,154 13
,, sand - - -	330	155	207 80
Fees, registration - -	115	340	974 00
,, other - - -	405	747	813 80
Total - -	63,896	75,210	117,385 43

6. The total revenue of the Department for the year 1888, viz., $117,385.43, shows an advance upon that of the previous year of $42,175.43, exclusive of Reimbursements, which appear elsewhere.

7. The first item, "Premium," shows an increase of $11,465.50, which is accounted for by the issue of grants for tapioca cultiva-

tion of the extent of nearly 6,000 acres, and is due to the high price of tapioca, which is not expected to fall very materially, in spite of the large areas taken up for the same purpose (probably some 80,000 acres) in the Native States adjoining Malacca, owing mainly to the alleged increased and growing consumption of the manufactured article in China.

8. With regard to the second item, "Rents," taking the two items "Current" and "Arrears" as one, the figures for the year under review, as compared with those for the preceding year, show $92,981, or an increase of $30,608.

9. Before explaining the manner in which this increase has accrued, it is necessary to premise that in 1887 an order of Government was issued, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Lands, that rent on ten-year leases, *i.e.*, tapioca lands, should, in accordance with the terms of such leases, in future be collected in advance.

10. This order, being strictly carried out, resulted in an addition to the revenue of $25,363.

11. The remainder of the $92,981, is accounted for as follows:—Current Rent," $54,619; "Arrears," $6,662; "Mukim Assessments," $6,336.

12. Of the collections under the head "Current Rent," $2,619 is an increase upon the estimate for the year, which was $52,000.

13. This result, equally with that in respect of "Arrears," is due to the energy displayed by the Magistrate, Mr. E. W. Birch, who was also in charge of the Land Department.

14. The number of deeds registered was 489 in 1888, compared with 159 in 1887.

15. It is satisfactory to be able to record that more land has been and is being taken up for the cultivation of gambier and pepper than heretofore, but in respect of other cultivations, such as coffee, &c., Mr. Tan Hun Guan continues to be the only planter of any enterprise.

16. The soil of Malacca has been generally spoken of as poor, but I do not hesitate to say that there is plenty of good soil in the Settlement suitable for a variety of cultivations, but enterprise is not to be looked for from the Malacca Chinese as a body, and any real extension of planting on a large scale must be looked for from the introduction of English and Chinese enterprise from elsewhere.

17. The facilities in the way of transport in this Settlement are so great, and the consequent reduction of expenditure on this head, as compared with other places, would be so considerable, that I feel satisfied that no intending planter would hesitate to make a trial here when once he had selected ground with which he was satisfied, and on this score, as I have already said, I have no misgivings.

18. I feel it necessary to make some rejoinder to the remarks made on the subject of tapioca cultivation by the Commissioner of Lands Titles in his report on the year 1886.

19. With respect to the question of manuring, it is to be remembered, having regard to the distance from Malacca of most of the estates, that the cost of transport is a serious hindrance, but I have little doubt, if any means could be found of utilizing tapioca refuse or any other material locally available, that it would be adopted.

20. To describe tapioca planting as the "shifting cultivation" of the East is hardly a fair proceeding; the planting which is properly so termed lasts seldom more than one year, while the tapioca planter takes a lease for 10 years, and sometimes holds the land for 12.

21. To continue tapioca planting it is not at all necessary that the planter should have first or even second class jungle; secondary jungle of 15 or 20 years' growth is good enough for his purpose, and is taken.

22. It is likewise a mistake to suppose that this industry must die out, "after having converted the forests of Malacca into a *lalang* "waste." The *lalang* wastes, unless they are carelessly set fire to, as sometimes doubtless happens, are rapidly absorbed by the newly growing jungle, as may be seen all over Malacca.

23. I see no reason, therefore, why the Malacca jungle lands should not continue to be used in rotation for tapioca, so that that cultivation may be regarded as a permanent source of revenue.

24. I have for some time doubted whether the Government got quite enough revenue from tapioca; but, with unfavourable prices, the time seemed inopportune for raising the question; I should have preferred to see an increase obtained from the rent rather than from premium, which may come in more or less unexpectedly in considerable sums at a time and throws more uncertainty upon the estimates, while making no mark on the rent-roll; but the Chinese themselves prefer paying more premium to an enhanced rent.

25. I do not see any advantage to be gained from entering into the cost of tapioca cultivation; figures obtained from Province Wellesley would not be applicable to Malacca, and figures obtained here from various sources have always been found contradictory; but it may be said roughly that a price of $4 a pikul will cover the expenses of those who work on borrowed capital, and $3 of those who work with their own money, that is, within Malacca territory; beyond it the figures will have to be slightly raised, owing to further distance.

26. During the year under review the mukim assessment was collected in nine mukims, with a resulting revenue of $5,865, as compared with $2,300 obtained from tenths in 1887, an increase of $3,565.

27. When all the mukims have been registered (14 were registered in the northern district besides the nine above mentioned) it may be safely anticipated that there will be a permanent increase to the revenue of at least $20,000, which was the amount I put it at some years ago.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

28. All the 17 mukims of the southern district were assessed, but owing to the organised resistance in this district, which culminated in the Sĕrkam disturbances, only $1,713 were collected in the last two months of the year, after the disturbances were suppressed.

29. It is estimated that the assessment in this district will produce from $7,000 to $8,000, but it is not possible to form an accurate estimate beforehand, although the lands have been assessed, owing to its having been found that many of the holders are now desirous of returning to Government land in excess of that which they find themselves able to cultivate.

30. The Southern District contributed $31,387.93 of the land revenue of the Settlement, made up, besides the assessment already mentioned, of premium $4,309.50, rent on leases $24,476.87, timber royalty $375.75, and other smaller items.

31. The remarks I made in my report for 1885* on the advantages to be derived from the introduction of assessment in lieu of tenths (para. 22), and on the reasonableness of trebling rentals (paras. 83 to 88), drew down on me a good deal of hostile criticism at the hands of unofficial members of Council, but further experience has only served to show that I was correct in the view I took.

32. Perhaps, with regard to the assessment, I did not draw particular attention to the advantages which might be expected to result from its adoption to the customary land-holder as well as to the Government, but if they had been pointed out, it would probably have only been regarded as an attempt to distract attention from the revenue aspect of the matter.

33. The assessment system brings the Malays into closer relations with the Land Department, which does much to protect them from litigation, in which they would otherwise become involved through the machinations of bad characters, and from oppression of various kinds; the one annual payment is substituted not only for tenths on padi, but on fruit and various other produce, so that they are thus freed from the harassing effects of constant valuations, and are no longer sufferers from private feeling on the part of the officers concerned in valuing, of which instances in the past have not been wanting; nor do they complain, except in a very few instances, that the assessment is too high. Where that has been the case reassessment is directed. It may be said generally that the assessment is now accepted freely, and its advantages are beginning to be appreciated.

34. Tin revenue has shown no tendency to advance, because public attention has been distracted to other mining fields since the time when Kĕsang was supposed to be exhausted, and not because there is no tin land in Malacca which has not been worked out.

35. Tin is to be found pretty well all over Malacca, but the points which I think should be examined by competent miners are the districts of Chinchin, the valleys running down from the Bukit Sĕnggeh and Hulu Bátang Malaka ranges, hills varying from 1,000 to 1,500 feet in height, and most of the country along

* No. 6 in [C.—4904] September 1886.

the northern frontier, particularly the neighbourhoods of Tĕbong, Kwála Ína, Chĕrána Pútih and the Western Bukit Pútus near Brísu, nor should the Ayĕr Pánas and Kĕsang and the Bukit Kajang country be overlooked.

36. If tin should be found in paying quantities in any of these places, which, to judge from outward appearances, is as likely as in other places where mines have been found to pay, the transport facilities of this Settlement, already alluded to, could not fail to materially reduce working expenses.

37. The Queensland Government go so far as to devote public money to boring with a view to the acquisition of knowledge respecting the mineralogical resources of their country, and we cannot claim that want of means is a bar to our following so laudable an example.

Licenses.

38. The revenue under this head shows under the farm contracts the same figures as for the two preceding years, viz. :—

	$
Opium - - - -	147,600
Spirits - - - -	39,000
Pawnbrokers - - - -	5,760

Stamp Revenue.

39. The figures are as follows:—

	$
Revenue (commercial) - -	6,168.49
Judicial - - - -	5,453.83

These show a fall of $3,261, as compared with those for 1887, and are the lowest under this head for five years. The explanation appears to be that there has been a decrease under the head of probate duty to the extent of $1,782, the balance being accounted for by slackness of business in the courts.

Fines, Forfeitures and Fees of Courts.

40. The figures beneath give the returns since 1886 of the fines in land cases taken before the magistrate, and of fees, and of fines in other cases.

Fines, Forfeitures and Fees of Court.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Land cases - - -	515 35	165 15	228 30
Fines in other cases, and fees -	2,697 40	4,241 46	4,928 85
Total - -	3,212 75	4,406 61	5,157 15

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

41. It is not likely that the "land cases" will ever show high figures again, while the other fines vary according to the views of the magistrate for the time being.

42. Of the chief "Reimbursement" items shown in the following table, it is to be observed that the item "Survey Fees" would have shown more favourably if the survey staff had been stronger, a good deal of work being done by private surveyors, but now that the staff has been materially reinforced this item will attain better proportions in future.

Reimbursements.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$
Survey fees - - -	293	670	1,570
Municipal contributions - -	3,780	3,600	*3,960
Other items - - -	4,070	4,762	4,076
Total - -	8,143	9,032	9,606

43. Of the remaining items of revenue, it may be remarked, (*a*) that "Port and Harbour Dues" continue to show a small increase, but the upward tendency has been steady and progressive for some years, the figures having now risen to $2,201 in 1888, as compared with $941 in 1882; (*b*) while "Postage" has in the same period advanced from $1,211 to $2,834; (*c*) "Interest" has dropped from $2,149 to $1,368, because of the withdrawals from the Treasury here by the Colonial Treasurer; (*d*) "District Collections," $5,400, are due to cart-taxes taken over by the Government from the Municipality.

EXPENDITURE.

44. The expenditure for the past three years appears below :—

——	1886.		1887.		1888.	
ESTABLISHMENTS :—	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.
Salaries - - - -	122,984	87	132,788	95	127,488	08
Office contingencies - -	984	37	2,380	38	883	71
Allowances - - -	2,210	81	1,898	82	2,486	65
Total Establishments -	126,180	05	137,068	15	130,858	44
Pensions - - -	8,989	92	10,358	69	18,550	12
Revenue services - -	7,169	95	19,315	90	12,827	88
Administration of Justice -	712	90	518	25	841	62
Ecclesiastical - - -	299	95	324	97	300	00
Charitable allowances - -	1,033	20	989	00	1,069	00
Education - - -	7,425	19	6,242	26	4,441	15

* Contribution for the audit of accounts for 1886 and 1887 paid in 1888.

	1886.		1887.		1888.	
	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.
Medical - - -	8,077	88	8,064	76	10,854	30
Police - - - -	2,099	90	3,112	58	3,862	27
Gaols - - - -	1,906	79	1,835	06	2,057	49
Harbour - - -	764	50	847	24	1,063	17
Light-houses - - -	2,367	59	2,229	40	2,279	19
Government vessels - -	2,495	48	14,639	09	2,421	01
Conveyance of mails - -	601	15	625	46	719	84
Rent - - - -	469	32	440	00	300	00
Transport - - - -	13,002	59	13,840	32	12,665	95
Interest - - - -	—		—		—	
Miscellaneous services - -	9,111	17	8,045	80	21,965	53
Works and buildings - -	43,407	24	57,361	26	60,855	71
Roads, streets and bridges -	75,920	35	75,277	83	84,065	77
Land and houses purchased -	209	35	1,201	15	1,282	40
Special expenses - -	1,619	30	1,538	55	1,148	49
Native States - - -	—		—		—	
Total - -	313,863	77	363,875	72	374,429	33

45. The decrease on "Establishments" is due to the pay of the Survey Staff having been charged to the vote "Miscellaneous Services—Surveys pending arrival of Survey Party from India."

46. The increase under the item "Pensions" is caused by 12 new superannuation allowances, and nine additions to the vote "Annuities to Landed Proprietors," resulting from the decisions of the Commissioners under Ordinance VIII. of 1886.

47. The decrease in "Revenue Services" is accounted for, (*a*) by the purchase of fewer boundary stones; (*b*) by the pay of chain-bearers being charged as explained in para. 45.

48. The reduction of expenditure under the head "Education" is explained by the substitution of "Bonus" for "Capitation Allowance" to the teachers of the Vernacular Schools.

49. (*a*) The difference of the figures in 1887 and 1888 in respect of "Government Vessels" is due to Malacca being charged in the former year with the cost of the launch "Sea-bird," which was built for her, but sent to Penang as soon as completed. (*b*) Malacca has, indeed, received the "Alert," but it will doubtless not be pretended that the latter originally, and much less after five years' running, was worth the $13,000 (within a few dollars) paid for the "Sea-bird."

50. The increase under the head of "Miscellaneous Services" will be understood on a reference to paras. 45 and 47.

51. The expenditure on "Works and Buildings" was greater than it has been since 1885, chiefly due to the cost of completing the new pier. This vote naturally fluctuates to a certain extent.

52. The vote "Roads, Streets, and Bridges" shows likewise higher figures than it has done since 1885 but this vote is less likely for some time to come to diminish; the tendency must naturally be rather the other way, as the length of road-way to keep up must continue to increase till the Settlement is completely

occupied and all available land taken up, numbers of roads will have to be made first class, gradients will have to be improved on the main trunk roads leading into the interior, cross roads nearer town will have to be multiplied, and wide tracts of country like that between the Durian Tunggal and Ayĕr Pánas roads will need better communications.

WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

53. The chief works executed were the completion of the new pier, the erection of quarters at Jasin for the District Officer, South, and staff (these were not quite completed), and quarters for the Assistant Superintendent of Forests at the Experimental Gardens at Bukit Sabókor, construction of Overseer's quarters at Sungei Báru and Kĕsang, replacing decayed wooden telephone posts with iron poles, the construction of a new Magistrate's Court, completion of apothecary's quarters at Durian Daun (at present occupied by the Colonial Surgeon), out-offices and stables at Machap and Kĕsang police stations, landing-jetty and boat-house at Kwála Linggi, reconstruction of police stations at Selandar and at Sungei Udang, Inspector's quarters, &c. at Pangkálan Balak, new office for the Resident Councillor, addition of a court to Durian Tunggal Station.

54. Without the new pier, landing or embarking could not be effected below half-tide.

55. The site of Jasin for the quarters of the District Officer, South, though undoubtedly far more convenient from an administrative point of view than the old site at Mĕrlímau, is certainly not so good as that of Kĕsang, which is practically equally central, and has superior facilities and conveniences for administrative purposes in the existence of a village, of a police station with Inspector in charge, and a court-house, while the site is very fine; here also are quarters for an overseer and for a surveyor.

56. The erection of the quarters at Jasin has merely involved additional expense in the way of police, which now cannot be dispensed with, the District Office being also a District Treasury and the erection of telephone communication, which would have been unneeded had the quarters been erected at Kĕsang.

57. The Assistant Superintendent's quarters at Bukit Sabókor are very well placed, overlooking the gardens, and the situation is far more convenient in every way than that originally proposed at Bukit Brúang.

58. I hope to see a decided improvement take place in the roads, now that the district overseers are being provided with quarters in their districts.

59. The telephone working should prove more satisfactory now that the falling of decaying posts has been done away with, and a competent officer has been placed in charge.

ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES.

60. The chief works undertaken under this head were:—(*a*) Replacing timber culverts by stone, excellent economical work; (*b*) remetalling Kandang and Ayĕr Molek road from town limits; (*c*) raising and metalling the road to Ayer Sálak; (*d*) at Merlímau, (*d*1) at Sungei Rambei; (*e*) Jalan Pokok Mangga, a road connecting the Tanjong Kling and Malim roads through Klébang Kĕchil, which had become impassable; (*f*) the Ayer Molek and Bukit Lintang roads previously broken up; (*g*) roads at Sĕlandar, Rim, and Umbei; (*h*) replacing five decayed timber bridges with iron; (*i*) improvements to gradients of roads at Sĕlandar, Sungei Udang, Batu Berkárut, and Alor Gájah.

61. A great deal of work of this kind (*i*) is required on the leading roads of the territory, as they originally were made by merely widening the existing native tracks, which generally go up hill and down dale regardless of gradients, but I hope in the course of another year or two to have the main trunk roads leading into the interior in such a condition that any one may travel on them by day or night at a good pace without fear of accident.

62. (*j*)—Improvements to frontier roads at Rim, Sĕlandar, Batang Maláka, and from Máchap to Tĕbong.

63. This last is on the most direct route to Gĕmĕncheh, which, if the work is completed, will be carried on through Bukit Pútus, where a cutting will probably be necessary at considerable expense, but this will be cheaper and much nearer than making a new route *viâ* Tampin, or than making respectable gradients all the way from Gĕmĕncheh proper to Kĕsang, a distance of 18 miles, and metalling a great portion of it, as will be necessary.

64. (*k*)—Opening up abandoned road to Kwála Linggi. This has been done before, but without any satisfactory results, but under the easy terms on which Government last year agreed to let Malays take up land, a considerable area of land has been taken up along this road for padi-planting.

65. (*l*)—Opening up abandoned road from Mĕrlímau to Chinchin was required not only for administrative purposes generally to establish a direct line of communication between Chinchin and the coast, but to open up the country on both sides.

66. (*m*)—Clearing rivers and canals was carried out to a considerable extent, with beneficial results in the way of padi-planting, but it was found impracticable, owing to unfavourable weather, to complete the Maláka Pindah and Bĕlimbing dams; it is, however, hoped that this will be done successfully during the current year, and it is anticipated that it will have important results in resuscitating cultivation over a large area.

67. (*n*)—Three hundred and thirty miles of first and second class roads were maintained during the year, and though the departmental system is undoubtedly preferable to that which formerly prevailed, and much improvement is apparent in the Malacca roads in many respects, there is yet plenty of room for

improvement, which must be sought in the exercise of more care and intelligence on the part of overseers, and in strengthening the hands of the superintendent of works and surveys in office [works ?] sufficiently to admit of his devoting proper time to country inspections, which has not been the case in the past.

68. Nothing has been able to be actually started in respect of waterworks, but arrangements have been made for boring, with a view to artesian wells, during the current year. Surveys were also carried out at Bukit Brúang, where a promising valley for a reservoir was found, but the rainfall data were not satisfactory, and in October observations were started at the Bukit Brúang Reserve Station, which, so far as they went by the end of the year, promised more favourable returns than those afforded by the records at Batu Bĕrĕndam, previously the nearest meteorological station to Bukit Brúang.

LAND.

69. In the Land Department there has been a saving on the estimates of $5,705, of which $246 is accounted for by the sixth clerkship remaining vacant subsequent to second June, and the post of fourth notice server was not filled during the year; $353 was saved on the "Allowances to Pĕnghúlus," owing to the state of things in the Southern District, while $2,500 were saved on the "Boundary Stone" vote of $5,000, and $2,550 under the "Expenses of Work under the Boundaries Ordinance" vote of $10,000. The Northern and Southern Districts divided the expenditure very evenly between them.

70. The following were the titles issued in 1888:—

Statutory grants - - - -	102
999-year leases - - - -	2
Agreements - - - -	232
Annual occupation licenses - -	6
	342

representing an area of 7,056 acres, compared with 4,639 acres in 1887.

71. On the 1st March there were 331 applications outstanding, which by the end of the year were reduced to 37.

72. Of 88 fresh applications during the year, 23 were dealt with, leaving 65, in addition to the 37 just mentioned, or a total of 102 to be taken up during the current year.

73. The issue of agreements (pending the preparation of leases), after rough measurement and demarcation with boundary stones has much facilitated rapidity of treatment.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

74. The figures for 1888 are unfavourable, as compared with preceding years, as will be seen by the table hereunder:—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$	$	$
Imports - -	2,964,937	2,898,345	3,072,390	3,833,311	2,462,142
Exports - -	3,060,803	3,147,401	3,331,152	3,985,308	3,208,621

75. The difference between 1888 and 1887 is more marked, because of the unusually high figures of the latter year which were $855,000 above the average of the previous three years in respect of imports, and $706,000 above that average in respect of exports.

76. The decrease in imports is chiefly as follows:—Unmanufactured metal, $1,029,370; grain, $109,905; specie, $419,132; spices, $39,061: but animals and manufactured metals show an increase of $142,029 and $33,561 respectively.

77. The decrease in exports is $879,100 in unmanufactured metal, and $476,172 in specie, while tapioca and animals show increases respectively of $588,733 and $35,072.

78. The decreases are mainly accounted for by the fact that a great deal more is now carried direct to other ports than used to be.

SHIPPING RETURNS.

Arrivals.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Steam vessels - - - -	960	1,017	1,091
Tonnage - - - -	189,583	211,311	228,723
Sailing vessels and native craft -	2,052	2,503	2,408
Tonnage - - - -	38,051	48,341	46,072

Departures.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Steam vessels - - - -	961	1,016	1,091
Tonnage - - - -	189,883	211,161	228,723
Sailing vessels and native craft -	2,089	2,543	2,468
Tonnage - - - -	38,377	50,472	46,951

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79. The above figures show some increase in the steam vessels, which accounts for the reduction in the number of sailing vessels and native craft.

POSTAL RETURNS.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Letters received - - -	83,980	99,443	100,759
Registered articles received - -	2,220	2,921	2,098
Letters despatched - - -	66,471	78,819	75,136
Registered articles despatched - -	2,446	3,201	2,558

80. The above figures are in reality satisfactory, the slight apparent fall in the last three items being accounted for by the Sĕlángor and Sungei Ujong mails being now closed direct for Singapore, which in previous years they used not to be.

81. The figures relating to money orders, as shown below, display material progress :—

Money Orders issued.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	£
United Kingdom - - -	986	1,046	1,119
Local - - - - -	1,810	3,529	3,991
Native States - - - -	132	—	448
India - - - - -	2,927	4,026	4,541
Ceylon - - - - -	744	856	1,402
China - - - - -	46	65	294
Bangkok - - - -	—	—	2
Local Postal Orders - - -	504	323	397
British Postal Orders - - -	470	458	499

Money Orders paid.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$
United Kingdom - - -	17	16	5
Local - - - - -	1,232	1,101	1,059
Native States - - - -	1,821	892	3,208.
India - - - - -	367	344	414
Ceylon - - - - -	—	15	—
China - - - - -	—	—	—
Bangkok - - - -	—	—	96
Local Postal Orders - - -	208	127	118
British Postal Orders - - -	—	—	—
Australia - - - -	—	63	—
Johor - - - - -	—	40	—

82. Six prosecutions were instituted, all of them successful, for breaches of the Post Office Ordinance.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

83. The following table shows the number of prisoners brought before the magistrate, and how they were dealt with, during the past three years :—

Magistrate.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of prisoners brought before magistrate - - - -	2,149	1,792	1,622
Number of cases - - -	1,450	1,327	1,244
How dealt with (No. of prisoners).			
Committed to supreme court - -	47	28	26
Convicted, imprisoned, or fined -	1,133	845	876
Ordered to give security - -	47	27	95
Discharged - - - -	902	869	622
Cases undecided - - -	20	23	3

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84. An improvement will be noticed in the proportion of convictions, as compared with the previous year, while the total number of prisoners and cases is lower than for any previous year during the period to which the return relates.

Excise.

85. The number of Chandu cases during the year was 22, the fines in which amounted to $2,707; of these, $2,502 were paid, while sentences were inflicted as follows:—Under one month, nine persons; under two months, 13; under three months, 2; under four months, 3; under five months, nil; under six months, 2.

86. There were two appeals against the decision of the magistrate, one resulting in a reduction of the sentence, the other being unsuccessful.

Court of Requests.

87. In this Court the cases and amounts involved in them were as shown hereunder:—

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of cases - - -	1,020	1,002	1,408
Amount involved - -	$ 11,461	$ 16,141	$ 19,119

88. It seems desirable, as is strongly urged by the Commissioner, that the jurisdiction of court should be raised above $50.

89. The inconveniences arising from the present limit are sufficiently well known, viz., that suitors either have to wait for the civil sittings of the Supreme Court (quarterly), or to reduce their claim to $50.

90. The Commissioner correctly observes that the people require cheap and speedy adjudication, but they do not get it under existing arrangements.

91. He recommends the extension of the jurisdiction to $250, but the precise sum can hardly be fixed without a careful overhauling of figures.

92. The number of civil cases heard in the various country courts were as follows:—

	Northern District.	Southern District.
Number of cases - - -	76	30
Amount involved - - -	$1,280	$499
Judgment for plaintiff - - -	22	11
Judgment for defendant - -	3	6
Settled - - - - -	37	10

Supreme Court.

Criminal Cases.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of prisoners for trial - -	47	28	26
How disposed of.			
Convicted - - - -	24	12	15
Acquitted - - - -	18	15	10
Nolle prosequi - - - -	5	1	—

A Malay prisoner charged with murder died in gaol before his trial.

Civil Cases.

94. From the following table some information may be obtained regarding the civil cases of the past three years:—

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of cases heard - -	138	141	147
Damages involved - - -	$59,988	$67,823	$55,370
Settled - - - - -	38	43	43
Judgment for defendant - -	4	9	11
Damages for plaintiff - - -	$32,006	$48,007	$29,304

Bankruptcy.

95. In 1886 there were no bankruptcy cases, in 1887 there were two, the amount failed for being $1,642, while in 1888 there were three cases with an amount failed for of $29,940.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

96. The value of property in cases under this head during the last three years can be gathered from the return below:—

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of cases - - -	132	155	117
Value of property - - -	$ 79,179	$ 96,031	$ 45,600

POLICE.

97. The force during the year has remained in charge of Mr. Superintendent Riccard, and shortly after my return to the Colony I noticed a distinct improvement in the general bearing of the force.

98. The force is too short-handed for the needs of the Settlement when at its full strength.

99. There should be first class constables here, as in the other Settlements, at $10 a month, otherwise there is little inducement to join, and it must not be overlooked that this Settlement, instead of being cheaper to live in, as it used to be, is now dearer than Singapore.

100. There has been much difficulty in obtaining recruits until reading and writing were no longer made a *sine quâ non.*

101. The superintendent advocates a school for boys to be trained for the force, but I should doubt the practicability of that.

102. Boys in the vernacular schools might be drilled at periodic intervals, which would improve their figures, and smarten them up a bit, so that, whenever any of them joined the force, he would be less clumsy and bumpkinish.

103. Of the Malay contingent the superintendent speaks well of the senior officer, but not of the rank and file.

104. The Sikh contingent seem to need a European officer who can speak their language to keep them under proper control.

105. I am glad to say that there has been a much-needed increase to the European contingent in the shape of two sergeants.

106. A detective department is still a need of the Settlement, and it is hoped that with better means something will be achieved in this direction in the course of the current year. It would not, however, be fair to omit notice of the excellent work done in this direction by Inspector Holmyard and the two or three subordinate officers employed under him, notably in the Bátu Bĕrĕndam murder case.

107. The superintendent should have a chief inspector in addition to the existing staff of inspectors.

108. His clerical staff is likewise inadequate to the duties required of it, and next year I trust to see it placed on a proper footing.

109. The force is short of arms, and I was under the impression this was going to be remedied three years ago, but the want has not yet been supplied.

110. Since the middle of the year the police have registered only those hackney carriages which are kept outside the municipal limits.

111. In October the registration of carts outside those limits was handed over to Mr. Westerhout.

112. This has been a bad year for murders. The first was a case in which a man at Duyong murdered one of his two wives by

nearly cutting her head off with a razor because he suspected her of giving him some medicine with the object of preventing his getting a family. He was arrested and committed for trial at the assizes, but refused all food and starved himself to death in gaol before he could be brought to trial.

113. The second was the murder of a Chinese hawker lad at Měrlímau by some persons against whom, on account of the influence of the Red Flag, it was found impossible to bring forward evidence, the motive being supposed to be partly plunder and partly the desire to remove evidence of debts. This is the more to be regretted as this is not the first time this crime has been committed with impunity in this very neighbourhood.

114. The third was the murder of Ali, a gambling informer, in Kampong Pantei, by some of his *confrères*, in consequence of ill-feeling. Six men were arrested and came up for trial at the assizes; the fifth prisoner, a lad of 16 or so, admitted striking the fatal blow with a bludgeon (which fractured the skull of Ali), but said he did it at the instigation of some of the others, of whom Nos. 1 and 3 were convicted of the abetment of voluntarily causing grievous hurt; they, as well as No. 5, were sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment. The sentence of No. 5 was, later, reduced to two years. The rest were discharged.

115. The fourth case resulted from a dispute at Bátang Maláka between Mahabut, a padi-planter, and his son-in-law, Jai, about money. Mahabut stabbed Jai in the neck with his kris, when Jai snatched his kris from him and retaliated with a stab in the side. They both died almost immediately.

116. The fifth case was that known as the Bátu Běrěndam case—a deliberate, cold-blooded, and brutal murder for the sake of gain. The victim was a Kling turned Mahomedan, named Abu Adam. He was murdered by Buntal, his father-in-law, at the house of the latter, where he was staying for the night. He was reported to be missing. It was found that Bachi, a son of Buntal, was altering the numbers of carts which had belonged to the deceased. A white pony belonging to the deceased, and which he was in the habit of riding, was found at the house of Buntal, and it was found that different kinds of property belonging to the deceased were being appropriated by Buntal, who said deceased had gone to Singapore.

117. The police made a search in the neighbourhood of Buntal's house, and after six hours' search they found the body of Abu Adam in a gunny bag thrust into a tub, and staked down in a swamp amongst some Gĕlam trees about a quarter of a mile from Buntal's house, and a path was found cut through the brushwood which could not have been more than three months old.

118. Search at the house of Buntal resulted in the discovery of suspicious marks as of blood and charring by fire on the boards forming a bed-place, and on some mattress-stuffing found in a loft in the house, and Buntal, his wife Siah, his sons Bachi and Mat

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Rahim, and his daughter Lijah, wife of the deceased, were arrested.

119. Bachi was discharged by the magistrate. The rest were committed for trial.

120. The branching of the wisdom-teeth and the deformity of one of the big toes enabled the body to be fully identified by some, amongst whom was Nonia (another wife of the deceased living at Lanjut Manis near Durian Tunggal), who also identified some of the clothing found on the body when discovered in the swamp, which she had sewed herself.

121. On being tried at the assizes, Buntal, Siah and Mat Rahim were found guilty of murder and sentenced to death.

122. Buntal was, at my instance, hanged on the spot in front of his own house where he had done Abu Adam to death.

123. The sentence of Siah was commuted to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment, and that of Mat Rahim to penal servitude for life.

124. The sixth case was the murder of a Chinaman named Swi Pong, a trader living near Sungei Báru, on his way to Tánah Mérah in Sungei Ujong for the purpose of buying gambier.

125. He had engaged the son of the Pĕnghúlu to bring his boat containing a box with some money in it round Tanjong Tuan (Cape Rachado), and went on foot to Tánah Mérah from Sagĕnting; he returned, however, to bring his boat back himself, and was never seen again.

126. His body was never recovered, but the boat was found near Tanjong Tuan, the inside covered with blood, and the property gone.

127. The son of the Pĕnghúlu and a Chinaman named Lau Sam Bi were arrested on suspicion, and as there seemed to be some doubt about the jurisdiction in the matter, the Superintendent of Police, Sungei Ujong, who had assisted the Malacca Superintendent on the spot in the search for evidence, undertook to take charge of the prisoners until some decision should be come to on the point of jurisdiction. Lau Sam Bi escaped from the custody of the Sungei Ujong police on the way to Sĕrĕmban, and has never since been heard of, in spite of every inquiry.

128. The charge against the son of the Pĕnghúlu broke down for want of evidence.

129. The seventh case was the murder of Té Gan, a small shopkeeper living almost directly opposite the gaol; he was found lying dead about 7 a.m., with an incised wound completely piercing the neck from side to side.

130. A knife was found on the ground a few yards from the house, which might have inflicted the wound.

131. The property of the deceased was intact. The house was only 100 yards from the Banda Hilar police station, there was a house close behind it, another not more than 20 yards away on one side, and the gaol just opposite, and yet no one heard anything at all. The circumstances seem to point to the crime being an act of revenge.

132. There was a strong squall the preceding night with rain, and perhaps a quarrel might have taken place without being overheard.

133. A man was arrested on suspicion and brought before the magistrate, but after some investigation was discharged for want of evidence.

134. The eighth case was that of one Péchok, a Kĕsang man, who, having had a quarrel in August 1887, in a padi-field about the land with Sídin, came to blows with him, and inflicted a wound with his *párang* on Sídin, which eventually proved fatal. He succeeded in escaping arrest for some time, but was arrested in Muar territory in March 1888.

135. He was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment.

136. Thefts on board steamers appear to be very common, and it seems to be a question, from a case which occurred on the "Sappho," where the captain failed to render any assistance whatever to the prosecutor, though the property involved was of great value, whether a legal obligation to assist should not be imposed upon masters of vessels.

137. There were 17 gambling cases, against 21 in 1887.

138. There has been a decrease in certain class of offences as under :—

	1887.	1888.
Breaches of land ordinances - - - -	80	32
Do. municipal ordinance - - -	82	49
Discharging guns and fireworks - - -	23	11
Leaving carts without due control - - -	63	33
Contempts of authority of public servants - -	67	16
Insult - - - - - - - -	73	23
Theft - - - - - - - -	94	66
Threats - - - - - - -	28	9

139. It is a pity that under the fourth item there was not a large increase of prosecutions, as the number of children between 5 and 12 years that are found driving carts, too often with their fathers or some senior relation asleep inside, is far beyond what it ought to be, and is a standing danger to the safety of all who travel in vehicles. I have taken action with a view to put a stop to it.

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140. The following list of offences show an increase :—

——	1887.	1888.
Assault - - - - - -	219	315
Breach of Harbour Ordinance - - - -	—	34
Breach of Hackney Carriages Ordinance - -	16	30
Drunkenness - - - - - -	25	36
Leaving animals without due control - - -	2	30

141. These figures point to increased activity on the part of the police and other officers, and I much regret the possibility of Malacca losing the services of an officer like Mr. Riccard.

SOCIETIES.

Chinese.

142. The Eng Ho Society was suppressed during the year, but the societies generally have given no trouble of an overt character, though they constantly frustrate justice, as the superintendent of police reports.

143. The number of the members of the Chinese secret societies in 1888 will be found below:—

	——	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Chinese.	Ghi Hin - - - -	4,524	4,786	3,652	4,438	5,355	6,487
	Do., Macao - - -	454	454	274	346	448	527
	Ghi Bu - - - -	640	646	Suppressed.		—	—
	Hok Beng - - - -	2,751	2,836	Do.		—	—
	Hei San - - - -	559	583	336	402	490	515
		8,928	9,305	4,262	5,186	6,293	7,529

144. The "Ghi Bu" and "Hok Beng" are by way of being suppressed, but there is some suspicion of concealed vitality amongst the latter, although they have lost their Kongsi-house.

145. If nothing is substituted for the societies under the new law, I doubt its success, but if heads of the different races are acknowledged and have some responsibilities thrown upon them, the exercise of which is watched by a Chinese-speaking European, I think the societies would lose their *raison d'être* and die away.

146. I do not suggest that the heads of the races should be simply substituted for Kongsi heads, but they would act much as

Pĕnghúlus do with Malays, see that the orders of Government are carried out, and be made responsible for any failure.

147. I think that the permanent presence of a Chinese-speaking European in this Settlement is decidedly required, having regard to the large numbers employed on tapioca and other estates without any supervision; it may be argued, as it has been argued before, that there is not enough work for a Chinese Protectorate officer here. I am not quite sure of that; such an officer would find some work to do in town generally, as well as in connexion with Chinese immigrant coolies, and he would have 30 estates or more to visit, over an area of 650 square miles, and I doubt whether visits to these at frequent intervals, combined with his other work, would leave him very much margin; but should it prove so, he might very well be paid partly by the Colony and partly by the Nĕgri Sĕmbilan, and inspect the estates of both territories.

148. Without making particular charges against Malacca planters it cannot be supposed that on some plantations things do not take place which are found to take place elsewhere, and have been considered to necessitate regular inspection.

149. I have no doubt that they do take place, and I may refer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of para. 145 of my report for 1885*, in which I said:—(*a*) "It is desirable that an officer knowing Chinese "should be stationed in Malacca to look after immigrants, as well as "to assist the police in keeping the societies in order; I am afraid "that cases occur on plantations which ought to come before a "judge and jury, but they either do not reach the ears of the "police, or only vague rumours do, which cannot be traced and "utilised." (*b*) "There was a case quite lately (this was in 1886, "I heard of it just before my departure for England) of a cooly "at a plantation dying from a beating, but it was settled in a "Kongsi, and I believe never reached the ears of the police. "The offender sent some money, $6 or $7, I am told, in a letter to "the relations of deceased in China."

Malay Societies.

150. The Flag (Red and White) Societies have manifested their existence with tolerable emphasis on more than one occasion in the course of the past year, more particularly the Red.

151. It was found practicable to obtain a conviction of two persons for being members of the Red Flag Society in connexion with a case which occurred at Chohong, because insignia and other marks of the society were displayed on the occasion, which led to the prosecution.

152. This no doubt would not have been the case had not the people thought themselves secure from observation at such a distance from town on the frontier borders.

153. The punishment of insignificant members will never have more than a temporary local effect, and there is no likelihood of getting any useful information from those who are punished; if

* No. 6 in [C.—4904] September 1886.

they belong to branches at a distance from town they could not give it, because they have none to give; if they belong to the Town Society, they would not dare, unless they could be severely punished for refusing, and even then they would dread the discovery of their action by the society.

154. What is necessary is what was originally provided in the new Societies' Ordinance, but subsequently withdrawn, viz., the power of deportation.

155. It was withdrawn, much to my regret, owing, I believe, to the opposition of the unofficial members of Council, on the purely sentimental ground that the persons who would be affected by this power are British subjects.

156. It appears to me that, if British subjects have the audacity to belong to associations which order or abet, as may be convenient, the commission of crime, and shelter criminals of the worst type, and constitute a "ráj" of their own within the jurisdiction, but independent of the British Government, they have no claim whatever to the privileges of British subjects.

157. To be so tender of the privileges of scoundrels of this class is to confer not prestige, but disgrace, upon the name "British subject."

158. Of course, it is to the leaders, not to the main body of the societies, that I refer.

INQUESTS.

159. The ensuing table shows the inquest figures for the past three years, the last year, however, showing returns for the Northern and Southern Districts separately :—

	1886.	1887.	1888.	
			N.D.	S.D.
Accidental death	17	16	12	1
Cause unknown	—	—	3	—
Drinking, excessive	2	—	—	—
Death by hanging, under sentence	—	—	1	—
Drowned, found	1	8	9	2
Died of wounds inflicted by tiger	—	—	1	—
Felo de se	2	7	2	1
Homicide	1	4	1	1
Inanition	—	—	—	—
Murder	3	—	4	2
Natural causes	4	17	29	2
Open verdicts	—	1	—	—
Shot, found	—	—	—	—
Suicide while insane	1	—	—	—
Total	31	53	62	9

The combined figures, 71, show higher than any other year in the table, but the higher figures under "natural causes" suggests that perhaps inquests may not have been necessary in all these cases.

The highest figure for "found drowned" and "murder" likewise help to swell the total to unusual dimensions.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ORDINANCE.

160. The result of the suspension of the above Ordinance is, the medical officer reports, that the amount of disease has almost quadrupled; and I believe that that proportion tallies pretty closely with what has been ascertained elsewhere in the Colony.

PRISONS.

161. The following are the Prison Returns for 1886 to 1888:—

Criminal.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Prisoners committed to Criminal Prison.			
For 1 month or under	101	98	124
„ 2 months do.	34	22	40
„ 3 do. do.	19	20	18
„ 6 do. do.	15	18	45
„ 1 year do.	5	3	10
„ 2 years do.	5	2	2
„ 3 do. do.	2	1	2
„ 4 do. do.	2	5	—
„ 10 do. do.	6	3	6
„ life	—	—	1
Total	189	172	248

Civil.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Received in Civil Prison.			
For safe custody	137	65	142
For trial	30	18	21
Simple imprisonment	30	26	19
Debtors	—	—	4
Lunatics admitted to the hospital	6	12	16
Total	203	121	202

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162. There were no offences of a serious character, no assaults on prison officers, nor any escapes, nor any suicides.

163. On the 15th of May eight revenue and 12 short-sentenced prisoners were received from Singapore Prison on account of an epidemic of cholera there, and completed their sentences in Malacca, after which they returned to Singapore.

164. The European staff of the prison was reduced, in March, by the transfer of Warder Savage to Singapore.

165. The health of the prisoners was good. There were two deaths, one a prisoner who deliberately starved himself. (*See* para. 112.)

166. The situation and conditions of the ward used for the custody of lunatics are not satisfactory, and alterations will be effected in both respects.

MEDICAL.

167. Two returns will be found hereunder—(*a*) giving the figures for the different hospitals during 1888; the other (*b*) giving the annual totals of all cases treated during the past three years:—

(*a.*) *Hospital.*

	General.	Lock.	Pauper.	Gaol.	Leper.	Small-pox.	Total.
Remaining from 1887 - -	4	—	124	—	1	1	130
Admissions 1888 - - -	372	—	2,156	39	17	10	2,594
	376	—	2,280	39	18	11	2,724
Discharged - - - -	365	—	1,863	36	2	4	2,270
Absconded - - - -	—	—	6	—	2	—	8
Transferred - - - -	—	—	—	—	8	—	8
Died - - - - -	5	—	204	1	6	6	222
Remaining under treatment -	6	—	207	2	—	1	216
Total - - -	376	—	2,280	39	18	11	2,724
Per-centage of deaths to admissions - - - - -	1·33	—	8·91	2·56	3·33	54·54	8·14

168. Statement (*b*) showing total number of cases treated in all the hospitals:—

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Admissions - - - -	1,115	1,560	2,594
Discharged - - - -	986	1,385	2,270
Absconded - - - -	4	14	8
Transferred - - - -	4	3	8
Died - - - - -	115	167	222
Per-centage of deaths to admissions -	10·31	9·82	8·55

(The difference in number is accounted for by the cases remaining at the end of each year.)

169. A marked increase is found in the general hospital figures, viz., 372 admissions in 1888, as compared with 293 in 1887; this is probably accounted for by 1888 having been an unhealthy year.

170. The "pauper" admissions likewise show a large increase, viz., 2,156 in 1888, against 1,187 in 1887, *i.e.*, an advance of nearly 91 per cent.

171. This large rise in the numbers is to be accounted for by the employers taking more trouble than they used to do to see that the coolies are sent to hospital when they ought to be, which may be due partly to the increased subscription they agreed last year, at my instance, to pay, and partly, possibly, to their appreciation of the fact that it cannot pay to keep on a man at work when he is not fit for it.

172. Hence the coolies are no longer sent to hospital at such an advanced stage of disease as they used to be, which goes far to account for the further improvement in the per-centage of deaths, viz., 9·39, against 12·04 in 1887.

173. The Colonial surgeon is also of opinion that the beri-beri cases are no longer of the severe type they used to be.

174. The large addition to the number of pauper patients necessitated the erection of two temporary wards affording accommodation for 64 more patients.

175. The new iron fence put up round the hospital is an improvement in every respect.

176. The quarters built for the apothecary have been occupied by the Colonial surgeon, the original apothecary's quarters being no longer, since the suspension of the Contagious Disease Ordinance, required for a female hospital, as at one time proposed.

177. The new lock hospital, which has never been used as such, has been turned into a general female hospital.

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178. It was decided to make the experiment of putting up one district hospital for 32 beds at Alor Gájah during this year, which, besides relieving the strain on the hospital at Durian Daun, would be a distinct benefit locally in a variety of ways. I trust that another may be put up in 1890 at Jasin, the other plantation centre.

179. With these two district hospital centres and improved access to them (in addition to the Durian Daun Hospital), the requirements of the Settlement could, I think, with eventual extension, be fairly met, for some time to come.

180. The out-door dispensary returns, as shown below, are not quite so favourable as might have been expected; the cause is probably the change of apothecaries, which took place during the year.

Out-door Dispensary.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Cases treated - - - -	1,425	1,254	1,160

That is all the explanation to be obtained from the Colonial surgeon, but it does not explain the fall in 1887 from 1886.

181. The vaccination figures, as will be seen by the annexed return, are not so satisfactory, either in respect of number of cases, or per-centage of successful cases :—

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Cases - - - - -	2,606	3,595	2,484
Per-centage, successful - - -	80·58	75·49	73·83

182. A change of system with regard to the mode of collecting children for vaccination took place, the Pĕnghúlus being invoked for the purpose instead of the police, who had previously done the work.

183. This was at the instance of the Colonial surgeon, who was not satisfied with the attendance secured by the efforts of the police, and it remains to be seen whether the change will prove satisfactory.

184. There were 15 cases of deaths from small-pox after vaccination, but the Colonial surgeon is unable to explain them. I have desired close attention to the point. Something further seems required to ensure general vaccination than has as yet been done.

185. One thing, the incompleteness of the registration of births, which, though considerably diminished, cannot be expected in this country ever to disappear, must always prove a hindrance in the way of general vaccination.

186. I have desired the schoolmasters to see that all their pupils are vaccinated.

187. The only way to secure complete vaccination would be a house-to-house visitation, but that is not provided for in the Ordinance, and the cost would probably be regarded as prohibitive.

188. It has been necessary to warn the natives about letting their children run about before their skin is properly healed, which they have been in the habit of doing in the most reckless way.

189. The general health in 1888 was not good; there was a good deal of small-pox, as well as of beri-beri, the first at one time assuming an epidemic form, 153 cases with 90 deaths having been reported.

190. In the month of April nine deaths were reported from cholera, but the Colonial surgeon says that only four of them were Asiatic cholera. The outbreak was in Tranquerah, was traced to a contaminated well, and ceased as soon as that was dealt with.

IMMIGRATION.

Chinese.

191. Some supervision of Chinese immigration is needed, and will be supplied during the current year.

Tamil.

192. 176 immigrants came to this Settlement, and were sent to estates, after accommodation had been approved by the Colonial surgeon, and supply of medicines procured, and arrangements made for periodical visits by him to the estates.

193. A depôt was prepared in Jonker Street. Difficulty was experienced in getting information from the Indian Immigration Department in Penang for the Assistant Indian Immigration Agent, regarding the way to work the Department.

Births and Deaths.

194. Annexed are the figures for the past three years:—

	Births.	Deaths.
1886 - - - - -	3,205	2,468
1887 - - - - -	2,698	3,163
1888 - - - - -	3,439	2,961

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195. There can be no doubt that these returns are not what they ought to be, though they do show improvement.

196. The Baba Chinese, who ought to set an example, are the most difficult to get trustworthy returns from in town, in respect of births, probably in consequence of their illegitimate character, nor can it be said things are better in the country, either in respect of births or deaths.

197. As far as the country is concerned, some improvement may be looked for from the completion of the district system of administration.

198. At present inspectors get some reward from improving the registration records, but only $60 was earned in this way during 1888; to make this plan do appreciable good, I think the system of rewards should be extended to the men of the force, who are much more likely to pick up and communicate information of this kind if they personally reap the benefit.

199. The following figures show the per-centage of deaths from convulsions to births during the past three years:—

	Per-centage.
1886	$18\frac{1}{3}$
1887	$22\frac{2}{3}$
1888	$16\frac{1}{2}$

200. In the monthly returns, out of 19 instances where the deaths from this cause exceeded 20 per cent. of the births, in 13 of them the rainfall for the month exceeded 6 inches, and in the month when the highest per-centage was reached, viz., in June 1884, the rainfall was 15·61 inches.

201. With the view of endeavouring to ascertain whether the prevalence of other diseases than cholera is affected by more or less rain, I have taken the average rainfall for every month in the year for the eight years, 1881 to 1888, with the average deaths for each month from fever, bowel complaints, and beri-beri.

The figures are shown in the attached table:—

Average for eight years from 1881 *to* 1888.

	Rainfall.	Deaths from Fever.	Deaths from Bowel Complaints.	Deaths from Beri-Beri.
January	2·58	77	9	$4\frac{3}{8}$
February	3·48	65	$10\frac{3}{8}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
March	3·80	71	$9\frac{1}{2}$	4
April	4·04	86	8	$6\frac{3}{8}$
May	7·64	102	15	$6\frac{7}{8}$
June	8·18	99	14	$9\frac{5}{8}$
July	6·61	100	$9\frac{5}{8}$	$7\frac{5}{8}$
August	8·66	90	$10\frac{3}{4}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$
September	9·79	82	6	$6\frac{1}{4}$
October	8·88	93	$5\frac{5}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{4}$
November	8·07	89	9	$5\frac{1}{2}$
December	7·15	100	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{3}{4}$

202. The tendency of the return is certainly to show that, with the considerable average increase of rainfall in May, June, and July, there is an appreciable augmentation of illness under the three heads recorded.

CATTLE DISEASE.

203. I have so little confidence in the trustworthiness of the returns under this head that I prefer to omit them, but there is no question that the people have suffered material losses in this direction.

204. The diseases recorded from which both buffaloes and bullocks suffer are foot-and-mouth disease, dysentery, diarrhœa, and colic.

205. Some steps require to be taken in order to instruct the people how best to care for their cattle, to prevent their catching disease, and to treat them when diseased.

206. These objects cannot be attained by flying visits of a veterinary surgeon.

207. There has also been a great deal of fatal disease in the way of glanders, farcy, &c., among horses and ponies. Here, too, knowledge is sadly required.

208. In former years much of this was attributed to unwholesome stables, and the municipality, wherever they could, have secured the construction of stables in accordance with the recommendations of the veterinary surgeon, and this action will be continued wherever possible.

EDUCATION.

209. The following are the figures for the last three years :—

	1886.	1887.	1888.
Boys.			
High School	304	283	258
French Mission School, St. Francis	174	173	150
Portuguese Mission, Tranquerah	41	53	52
Banda Hílir	—	—	*30
Vernacular	2,045	1,183	1,180
Girls.			
The Convent	103	78	73
Tranquerah	52	47	45
Malacca Girls' School	17	16	17
Vernacular	112	78	38
	2,848	1,911	1,843

* Re-opened on 3rd of April 1888.

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210. The falling off in the High School is to be attributed partly to the opening of a school in Banda Hilir, and partly to the ill-health of the head master; and that in the French School is likewise put down to the opening of the Banda Hilir School.

211. Three of the vernacular girls' schools have been closed, as the parents objected to their daughters going to them for fear that later in life they might turn their literary knowledge to use in the way of intrigue with the other sex.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

212. The work of this Department was carried on by Mr. Flanagan for the first quarter of the year, after which Mr. Derry resumed charge, on his return from Singapore.

213. There are nine forest reserves in this Settlement, those, viz., at Brísu, Sungei Udang, Panchur, Bukit Brúang, Měrlémau, Ayĕr Pánas, Bukit Sĕnggeh, Jús, and Bukit Sadánan, occupying a total area of about 34,420 acres, which will probably be somewhat increased in the course of the current year.

214. In my report for 1885* the total area was given as 42,000 acres, but it has been found needful to reject a considerable portion of what was known as the Jús Reserve, and to divide it up into three separate reserves, much of the rejected area being occupied.

215. Nurseries of seedlings have been started in some districts to plant in waste portions of reserves.

216. The Bukit Bruang Reserve has a good store of Tampines (*Slætia sideroxylon*).

217. The Sungei Udang Reserve has plenty of Káyu Minyak (*Dipterocarpus lævis*), Sĕráya (*Hopea cernua*), Měranti (*Hopea meranti*), Maláka (*Phyllanthus emblica*), Kĕlat (*Eugenia zelanica*), and a fair supply of Kranji (*Dialum indicum*), and "Arang" (*Diospyros sp.*) the local ebony.

218. Mahogany seedlings planted here have been nearly all destroyed by ants.

219. Much of the Měrlémau Reserve is swamp, which the clearing of the Kĕsang is expected to benefit, and to facilitate proper attention to the Eastern boundary, which has hitherto been impracticable. This reserve contains Tĕmbúsu (*Fagræa peregrina*), Pĕtáling (*Strombosia javanica*), both furnishing excellent timber, Měranti, Káyu Minyak, Gambar Daun, and Rambei Daun, the last two good timber.

220. Most of the Ayĕr Pánas Reserve contains young forest, but there is first-class timber with other useful trees along the roads, viz., Rĕsak (*Vatica rassaka*), Sĕpĕté (*Parkia Roxburghii*), Jĕlútong (*Dyera costulata*), Gambar Daun, Měranti, Kayu Minyak, and Kranji.

221. The Panchur Reserve contains a range of hills of which the highest point rises to 889 feet. An abandoned estate was taken into this reserve three years ago, and should be replanted artificially as much as practicable.

* No. 6 in [C.—4904], September 1886.

222. It contains Měrĕbau (*Afzelia palembanica*), Kĕlat, Pĕtáling, Kĕmpas, and Měranti.

223. The Brísu Reserve contains Sĕráya, Měranti, Kĕlat, and Kayu Minyak.

224. A good deal has been done in the Experimental Garden at Sabókor in clearing, planting, and preparing ground.

225. Useful work has been done in preparing seedling fruit trees for distribution, as there appears, I am glad to say, to be considerable demand for them locally and in the Native States.

226. The Assistant Superintendent has been experimenting with economic plants, on the results of which he remarks:—

"Mauritius hemp (*Fourcroya gigantea*) grows slowly, but well; some fibre has been prepared from a few old plants, and has the appearance of good fibre. If kept free from weeds, nothing further appears to be required to ensure success.

"Virginian tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum var.*).—From seeds received from Kew, a fine lot of plants were raised; but from seeds saved locally the plants deteriorated so much that the cultivation has been discontinued.

"Deli tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum var.*) has been tried, but this has also proved unsuccessful.

"Castor oil (*Ricinus communis*).—Seeds were obtained from the Botanic Gardens at Calcutta. The plants have grown vigorously and are now commencing to fruit.

"Croton oil (*Croton tiglium*) grows freely and fruits abundantly.

"Annatto (*Bixa orellana*) grows vigorously and is deserving of a trial on a large scale.

"Black pepper (*Piper nigrum*) grows well in the Settlement and might be more extensively cultivated to advantage.

"Cubebs (*Piper cubeba*) promise well, and are being propagated as largely as possible.

"Maltese oranges and lemons have grown well and are now flowering.

"Mahogany (*Swietenia mahogani*).—Seeds were received from Kew in 1886. The plants have grown well, and many are now 10 feet high. Unfortunately, few are free from the ravages of ants.

"Two species of *Eucalypti* have grown with remarkable vigour, and it would be interesting to try these valuable trees on a larger scale. From a sample of Liberian coffee observed to be growing well in the Settlement, and sent to the Kew authorities for report, the London brokers to whom the sample was submitted declared it to be the finest sample of Liberian coffee ever seen in the London market."

227. The valley in the middle of the gardens has, a good deal of it, been excavated, and the excavated soil, which is of excellent quality, has been laid to a depth of 18 inches or so over a large area which will be planted.

228. It is proposed eventually to turn the excavated valley into a small lake, which will greatly facilitate the watering work in the

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gardens, and a vote will have to be taken for the construction of a dam at the further end of the valley.

229. During the year the main entrance to the gardens was considerably improved, and the road was carried right through them out into the Bátu Bĕrĕndam Road, so that they can now be visited from either side.

230. During the current year attention will be given towards improving the revenue prospects of the Department.

231. I have confidence in the rapid and satisfactory development of this Department under the supervision of Mr. Derry.

METEOROLOGICAL.

232. Attached is a return giving information regarding the rainfall of the past six years:—

Rainfall.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Average for the year - -	91·15	73·04	67·71	71·95	82·10	69·05
Highest in any district -	—	84·11	77·74	90·76	98·58	90·66
Lowest in any district - -	—	58·87	39·16	50·96	66·17	48·48
Greatest fall in 24 hours -	4·32	6·11	4·29	4·80	7·30	4·90
	1 Station of observation only.	19 Stations.				21 Stations.

233. According to the above return, the rainfall for 1888 was 4·62 inches below the average of the previous four years, but this average has, I consider, been reckoned in a misleading way, as it brings into the calculation two stations where observations have been recorded for only three and four months respectively.

234. Eliminating these two stations, the mean is brought out at about 74 inches, which almost exactly corresponds with 73·67, the mean of the previous four years.

235. The point which shows the highest rainfall for the year is Pangkálan Bálak, the next, with 88·93 inches, is Kandang; while Kwála Linggi is the point of lowest rainfall.

236. The highest rainfall in 24 hours was at Bandar Hílir station in June, while Nyálas and Kandang each had 4 inches in April and May respectively.

237. It is probable that the Bukit Brúang returns will not be much behind the highest, if one may judge from the observations so far as they have yet gone.

238. It is to be hoped that further observations may before long enable some trustworthy and useful conclusions to be drawn of a general character.

SAVINGS BANK.

239. The following statement shows an appreciable increase in the business of the bank:—

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
Number of accounts opened - -	19	29	34
	$	$	$ c.
Amount deposited - - -	2,945	4,883	6,163 11
Amount withdrawn - - -	1,598	3,330	7,248 91
Amount to the credit of depositors, including interest at the end of the year.	3,475	5,139	4,243 53

240. It is not, however, anticipated that for some time there will be sufficient profits to adequately remunerate the secretary, though the work is considerable, and it has been suggested that the remuneration should be raised to a proper figure from the savings on the other branches, which does not seem unreasonable.

LIBRARY.

241. The statement below will give a fair idea of the condition of this institution:—

——	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$	$	$ c.
Receipts - - - -	960	1,022	1,053 57
Expenditure - - - -	965	960	1,004 75
Number of subscribers - -	39	44	47
Do. visitors - - -	3,000	4,000	3,000

	$ c.
The receipts in the year were as follows:—	
Government contribution - -	500 00
Subscriptions received - -	495 50
Cost of a book lost - - -	2 00
Balance from 1887 - - -	56 07
Total - - -	1,053 57

The Expenditure:—	$	c
Salaries, &c. - - - -	428	00
Purchase of books and papers -	546	85
Contingencies - - -	29	90
Lamps - - - -	—	
Total - - -	1,004	75
Balance - - -	48	82

242. The number of works for 1888 was 1,338, of which 1,042 were novels, while 282 were other than novels, and there were 14 works of reference.

243. The periodicals taken in the library were 15 in number, and the newspapers were 18.

244. The Government still give only $500 to this library, which is not enough, having regard either to the needs of the place or to the proportion between the Government donation and the amount subscribed as compared with what it is in the other Settlements.

245. An addition of only $250 would be most welcome and materially improve the usefulness of this institution.

246. The library still remains in its old site at the rest-house, but it cannot much longer conveniently remain there, and some other arrangement will have to be devised.

MUNICIPAL.

247. The annexed statement shows the revenue and expenditure of the Board for the past three years:—

Revenue.

	1886.		1887.		1888.	
	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.
Balance - - - -	—		—		2,809	34
Assessment, Houses - -	10,754	70	12,046	34	16,097	58
Assessment, Lands - -	1,413	72	1,377	13	788	01
Taxes, Private carriages - -	1,187	64	1,089	22	5,050	01
Taxes, Hackney carriages -	1,782	20	1,843	12		
Taxes, Carts - - -	8,309	65	8,133	40	3,019	22
Licenses, Trades - - -	1,910	00	1,836	00	1,355	00
Miscellaneous - - -	2,040	64	724	38	2,042	73
Total Revenue - -	27,398	55	27,049	59	31,161	89

Expenditure.

	1886.	1887.	1888.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Salaries - - - -	4,730 40	4,418 25	4,513 16
Allowances - - -	2,377 79	1,510 60	1,817 62
Contribution for Police - -	3,600 00	3,600 00	3,600 00
Contingencies and Miscellaneous	836 47	872 78	1,415 65
Lighting - - - - -	4,273 16	3,718 15	2,581 67
Roads, Streets, and Bridges -	10,794 03	9,994 27	7,835 06
Works and Buildings - -	158 83	—	255 69
Special Expenditure - -	67 88	863 00	414 70
Interest on Loan, and repayment of temporary Loan (1888) -	2,187 50	1,562 50	5,095 90
Balance - - - -	—	—	3,632 44
Total Expenditure -	29,026 06	26,539 55	31,161 89

248. The loss of the bulk of the cart taxes under Ordinance IX. of 1887, which handed over most of this source of revenue to Government, placed the Board in an insolvent condition, correspondence anent which resulted in the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry into the financial state of the municipality.

249. The Commissioners reported in favour of measures of aid to the Board on the part of the Government, but the exact nature and terms of this were not determined in 1888.

250. The figures above given do not disclose an insolvent condition, because 1888 was an abnormal year on account of the collection of three half years' assessment within the year, including that for the second half of 1887, and there is a sum of $1,437 in cart taxes collected by the Board, which properly belong to Government under the Ordinance, and some works provided for were not carried out for want of funds, which were, however, collected before the close of the year, but too late to utilise on the works in question.

NATIVE STATES.

251. The few remarks I offer under this head are merely to record the fact that the Nĕgri Sĕmbilan from the beginning of the year were removed from the control of the Resident Councillor, Malacca.

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252. They are now under the control of a superintendent, in direct communication with Singapore, and no doubt, under the energetic administration of Mr. Lister, they will make rapid progress.

D. F. A. HERVEY,
Resident Councillor.

Resident Councillor's Office,
Malacca, 27th April 1889.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 51.

TRINIDAD.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 16.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1889.



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42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,

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Governor Sir W. ROBINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Trinidad,
MY LORD, March 30, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for 1888.

Taxes and Duties.

No new tax was levied during the year. The taxation of the Colony is derived from the following sources:—

	£
Import duties (less drawbacks) - -	162,289
Excise duty on rum - - -	103,498
Licenses - - - -	22,398
House and land tax - - -	31,256
Legacy duty - - - -	3,083
And amounts in the aggregate to -	322,524

Taking the population at, in round numbers, 190,000, the taxation per head is 1*l.* 14*s.*

In my last report I mentioned that there are no local taxes levied by the Government. This fact must not be forgotten in making a comparison between the rate per head of taxation here and in other places. Nor must the purposes for which the money is raised and to which it is applied be lost sight of. Broadly stated it may be said that the Government are expected to provide the means for doing everything, the construction and upkeep of roads, not merely the main arteries of communication, but byeways as well as highways, mountain paths and bridle tracks; the maintenance of hospitals, asylums and almshouses; the medical treatment of the sick poor; the relief of paupers, eleemosynary aid of every description; grants-in-aid of schools and of public worship; the maintenance of the police and of prisons; contributions towards the cost of immigration; the support of a local volunteer force; subsidies to steam and telegraph services; the working of the railway, and other minor services, most of which in other countries are either chargeable upon local rates, are supplied by private enterprise, or are provided for, to a large extent at least, by the benevolence of individuals.

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When the cost of these various services is taken into consideration I think it cannot be denied that the taxpayer gets some value for his money.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue collected in 1888 amounted to 480,522*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, showing an increase of 24,355*l.* 10*s.* 10½*d.* as compared with he collection of the previous year.

The increases, which are enumerated below, occur principally under the following heads :—

	£
Export duty on asphalt - - -	9,575
Rum duty - - - -	4,744
Land revenue - - - -	3,364
Fines, forfeiture and fees of court - -	955
Interest - - - - -	2,190
Legacy duty - - - -	1,686
Railway traffic receipts - - -	711
Export duties on produce for immigration purposes which were not included in the revenue return of 1887 - - -	22,709

There was a falling off in the following items to the extent hereunder specified :—

	£
Imports - - - - -	2,856
Duty on rum imported (which is accounted for by the large increase of duty on rum of home manufacture as shown above) -	728
Land sales - - - -	6,225
Licenses - - - - -	2,370
Fees of office - - - -	429
Reimbursements in aid - - -	8,679

The sub-intendant attributes the decline in the land sales to the action taken on the recommendation of a special committee, which was approved by your Lordship, that land should only be alienated on the block system, and "in a smaller degree to the strained relations" which exist between planters and contractors, to which reference is made in another part of this Report.

In 1887 a sum of 9,164*l.* was brought to account under the head of reimbursements in aid, being a balance due by planters on 31st December, 1886. This, which was altogether an unusual receipt, and more in the nature of the re-payment of an advance, accounts for the apparent falling off in the receipts of 1888 under this head of service.

The expenditure of 1888 amounted to 463,345*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* against 424,594*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* in 1887. Increases are noted under the following heads:—

	£
Establishments	3,676
Pensions, &c.	1,053
Administration of Justice	699
Education	1,923
Rent	1,163
Conveyance of Mails	565
Postage	2,178
Drawbacks and refund of duties	633
Stationery	401
Public works	9,945
Ward Unions	661
*Export duty on produce for immigration purposes	22,709

The following exhibit a decrease:—

Hospitals	715
Gaols	603
Immigration	918
Miscellaneous services	881
Survey of lands	531
Railway working expenses	3,537
Government dairy	375
Transport train (public works)	765

Public Debt.

No new loan was contracted during the year. The amount of the debt outstanding on 31st December, or for which no investment on account of redemption has yet been made, is 552,680*l.*

Legislation.

Twenty-six Ordinances were enacted during the year. The following is a list of their titles:—

No. 1.—To increase the duties payable on asphalt or pitch.
No. 2.—To regulate the whipping of juvenile offenders.
No. 3.—Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance for 1887.
No. 4.—To amend the law as to quarantine.
No. 5.—To amend the law as to gaming.
No. 6.—To amend "The Port-of-Spain Water Works (Amendment) Ordinance, 1885."
No. 7.—To consolidate and amend the law relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise.

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* This item was not included in the expenditure of 1887.

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No. 8.—To authorise Alexander Thomson Macrae to make gas works for supplying the town of Port-of-Spain and its vicinity with gas.

No. 9.—To authorise the mayor and burgesses of Port-of-Spain to raise certain moneys to be expended in the improvement of the borough of Port-of-Spain.

No. 10.—To provide for the registration of copyright in literary and artistic works and for the preservation of copies of books published in the Colony.

No. 11.—To facilitate the probate of wills and the collection of legacy duty.

No. 12.—For regulating the laying out of new streets and the construction of buildings in Princes Town.

No. 13.—To amend "The Streets Regulation Ordinance, 1883."

No. 14.—To further amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors.

No. 15.—To further amend the law relating to the manufacture of cordials and compounds.

No. 16.—To provide for the further regulation of distilleries and to amend the Ordinance No. 25 of 1860 in certain respects.

No. 17.—To empower the puisne judges of Trinidad to make rules regulating the practice and procedure in the Petty Civil Court of Port-of-Spain.

No. 18.—To regulate and provide for the registration of friendly societies.

No. 19.—To further amend the law relating to Customs.

No. 20.—Appropriation Ordinance, 1889.

No. 21.—To repeal certain duties of Customs and to raise other duties in lieu thereof.

No. 22.—For raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1889.

No. 23.—To prohibit the digging, winning or removing of asphalt from Crown lands without license.

No. 24.—For the establishing of district courts.

No. 25.—To provide for the maintenance of bastard children in certain cases.

No. 26.—For the better regulation of the duties on postage and for the management of the post office.

No. 1 has an important bearing on the revenue of the Colony. It raises the export duty on asphalt from 2*s.* to 5*s.* a ton, and the receipts from this source have been more than trebled in 1888. Most of the asphalt shipped is obtained from the Pitch Lake, which is the property of the Crown. The whole of the lake, with the exception of five acres, was from time to time between 1867 and February 1888, leased at almost nominal rates to private individuals or companies, but so long as the five acre reserve was maintained no monopoly could be established. In November 1886 the Government gave notice that licenses would be issued for the winning of pitch from this five acre lot. The lessees, who it appears had formed some sort of coalition, ventured to dispute the right of the Government to grant such licenses, but their appeal to

the Privy Council was rejected. They thereupon adopted other means, and after much negotiation it was arranged that they should be granted a concession entitling them to the exclusive right of winning asphalt from the lake on payment of a royalty of 1*s.* 8*d.* and an export duty of 5*s.* for every ton shipped, they on their part engaging to ship not less than 30,000 tons per annum. The minimum payment to be made by the concessionaires is thus fixed at 10,000*l.* a year, which, as already stated, is very largely in excess of the annual income formerly derived from the Pitch Lake. Much controversy arose while this matter was in course of settlement. It is idle now to speculate upon what might have happened if any other arrangement had been made. The bargain has been concluded. That it is working very satisfactorily cannot be gainsaid by those who were most inimical to it; and it is sufficient to congratulate the Colony on having turned to profitable account a mine of wealth, which has for so long been regarded as little more than a natural curiosity and a show place for persons visiting the island.

Ordinance No. 5, "To amend the law as to gaming," was aimed principally at the suppression of the "Whé Whé," a species of lottery which was much in vogue among the Chinese residents, and under the guise of benefiting the participants, was fast demoralizing them and working ruin and desolation in their midst. The Ordinance is, no doubt, very stringent in its provisions; but judiciously worked it cannot fail to produce a beneficial effect on the well-being of the community.

No. 7 is an adaptation of the English Merchandise Marks Act, which was enacted at your Lordship's suggestion. Already have cases occurred proving the necessity for such a measure, and although some leniency has to be shown in dealing with infractions of its provisions, which are not yet generally understood, importers cannot expect after a reasonable time has elapsed for making themselves acquainted with the requirements of the law that its enactments will not be rigidly enforced.

No. 8, "For the establishment of gas works in the town of Port-of-Spain," did not receive the Royal Assent till the beginning of the present year, and the undertaking, which is being promoted by private enterprise, has not yet accordingly been commenced. It augurs well for the Colony that capitalists should be willing and anxious to invest a not inconsiderable sum in promoting the convenience, and adding, I trust, to the comfort, of the inhabitants of Port-of-Spain by providing, practically without any concession, a means of illumination for their streets and houses at a reasonable cost.

Ordinance No. 14 raises the charge for a license to sell wine, ale, &c., to be consumed on the premises, from 2*l.* to 10*l.* per annum, and imposes a charge of 5*l.* per annum for a license to sell wine, ale, &c., not to be consumed on the premises. No license was formerly required in the latter case. The Ordinance came into operation on the 1st January of the present year.

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A delivery charge of 1*d.* per package, for each case of cordial removed from the premises of a manufacturer and a license duty of 10*l.* per annum, are authorised by Ordinance No. 15. Manufacturers are also required to give security in the sum of 200*l.* before being licensed.

No. 16 regulates the distillation and sale of rum and other spirits, and requires that distillers and dealers, other than licensed retailers of spirits, shall after the 1st of January 1889, take out an annual license for which a sum of 10*l.* is chargeable. This license duty is a new one—no charge having been formerly made. The Ordinance also prescribes regulations, borrowed mainly from the English Act, to guard against illicit practices in the manufacture and disposal of rum.

No. 18, "To regulate and provide for the registration of friendly societies," is a measure of no little importance to the well-being of the community, and it is earnestly to be hoped that it will not be allowed to become a dead letter. It is to the clergy that the Government must look for a successful working of this Act. Organizations having for their object the promotion of thrift among the labouring class are, I regret to say, rare in Trinidad. None are more necessary. For the native population is by no means naturally provident; but they require to be encouraged and stimulated in their efforts to make provision against sickness and old age. Not the clergy only but others occupying influential positions in the Colony might do much to further and foster a spirit of self-help among their poorer brethren.

No. 19 prohibits the importation of goods "which, if sold, would be liable to forfeiture under the Merchandise Marks Ordinance, 1888," and also of all "Goods of foreign manufacture bearing any "name or trade mark, being or purporting to be the name or "trade mark of any manufacturer, dealer, or trader, in the Colony "or the United Kingdom, unless such name or trade mark is "accompanied by a definite indication of the country in which the "goods were made or produced."

It also permits the manufacture in bond of cigars This concession was granted with the object of encouraging local industry.

No. 21 amends the Customs tariff. The principal changes are as follows:—A separate rating has been provided for Oleomargarine and other substances of a like description. Creosote oil has been admitted at a 4 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, other oils paying 1*s.* per gallon. An additional duty of 1*d.* the liquid gallon for every degree of strength beyond the strength of proof on imported spirits was imposed, and with a view to the encouragement of export trade the list of articles on which drawback is allowed has been enlarged.

Ordinance No. 22, "For raising funds in aid of immigration "for the year 1889," differs in form from the legislation of previous years. It enacts that a tax on produce of 6*s.* 6*d.* per hogshead of sugar; 2*s.* 2*d.* per puncheon of molasses; 4*s.* 4*d.* per puncheon of rum; 1*s.* 9*d.* per bag of cocoa, and 1*s.* 9*d.* per bag of coffee, shall

on the shipment of the produce during 1889 be levied for the purposes of immigration.

Considerable discussion ensued on the introduction of the Ordinance No. 25, "To provide for the maintenance of bastard "children in certain cases," and it was only passed after strenuous opposition and much debate. The petitions, which were received in favour of the measure, went to show that the views of the unofficials, by whom it was opposed, were not shared by a large number of intelligent citizens, and on the whole the measure cannot, I think, be regarded as an unpopular one.

Ordinance No. 26 consolidates the law relating to the Post Office.

An attempt was made to legislate on the subject of agricultural contracts, and a Bill based on the recommendations of a committee appointed by me to enquire into the matter, was introduced into the council by one of the unofficial members who had himself been a member of the committee. This Bill gave rise to much discussion; but as the Council were not prepared to accept it in its entirety, it was abandoned by the introducer and withdrawn. The object of the measure was to allay a feeling of unrest amounting almost to animosity, which had been engendered between the owners of land and the persons with whom they had contracted to clear and plant it. It had been the custom from time immemorial or, at all events, from an early period in the history of the Colony, for landowners to allow persons called contractors to occupy patches of their land for a term of years, on condition that they planted it up in cocoa. During occupation the contractors were entitled to the entire produce of the soil, and at the end of their contract, which was generally made for a term of five or six years, they received a fixed money payment for each bearing cocoa tree handed over by them. During the currency of the contract all taxes in respect of the land were paid by the owner, who derived no benefit whatever from its yield. The contractors frequently, I understand, also received money advances to assist them in the cultivation. Where there was a disposition on both sides to act honestly towards each other the system worked smoothly and successfully, and was of mutual advantage to both parties, the contractors probably deriving most benefit. But, unfortunately, cases were brought to light in which it appeared that injustice had been practised. The cases were few, but an impression soon gained ground among the contractors that they had been, and were being, imposed upon; and many of them entered speculative actions, whether of their own accord or at the instigation of others I cannot say, for the recovery of damages to which they had no just claim. The contract system was decried. The amicable and profitable relations which had for so many years prevailed between owners and contractors ceased to exist. The former were afraid to run the risk of having to defend costly actions in a court of law which, even if they gained, entailed a heavy loss upon them; the latter began to look upon the owners as their natural enemy, of whom every effort should be made to obtain reprisals in the shape

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of heavy damages for fancied wrongs, and, having nothing to lose they were reckless as to consequences. The result of this state of things can easily be imagined. It has produced inconvenience to the owner; disaster to the contractor; material injury to the Colony; and the mischief done will not easily or speedily be repaired.

There is no doubt that the contracts did not secure the labourer against oppression on the part of the proprietor of the land. For instance, if before its expiry he died or fell sick and was unable to continue the contract, the owner was not bound to pay anything in respect of the cultivation then existing. It is true that they did not stand in the relation of landlord and tenant, for the contractor paid no rent nor did he make any contribution whatever towards the charges on the land. Still it was practically fair, and I believe in the large majority of cases it was the rule, that some consideration should be shown to disabled contractors or to the families of deceased ones.

On the other hand the owner had practically no redress against the contractor if he neglected to do what he had stipulated. He could not easily eject him; and after occupying the land rent free for a number of years the contractor might at the end of the time have handed it over in a state of desolation. The contractor in such a case would have been little better than a squatter; and, as such, had he occupied Crown land he would not only not have received any compensation for his labour, but he would have been liable to prosecution and imprisonment.

Councils.

In the Executive Council, Major Randle Ford, in command of the detachment of the York and Lancaster Regiment stationed in this Colony, replaced Major Daniel of the East Yorkshire Regiment, which was transferred to South Africa. During the absence on leave of Mr. Gatty, the Acting Attorney-General, Mr. Garcia occupied a place in the Council.

In the Legislative Council, Mr. G. L. Garcia, formerly an un-official member, succeeded the late Mr. Maxwell Philip as Solicitor-General. Mr. Léon Giuseppi, one of the un-official members, resigned his seat, and the two vacancies thus caused by Mr. Garcia's translation and Mr. Giuseppi's resignation, were filled by the appointment of Mr. Charles Leotaud and Mr. Eugene Cipriani.

Civil Establishment.

Few permanent changes of importance took place in the *personnel* of the Establishment during the year. Among the most noteworthy were the appointment of Mr. George Lewis Garcia to succeed the late Mr. M. M. Philip as Solicitor-General, and that of M. O. Fitzgerald, late Colonial Storekeeper, to be Sub-Receiver at San Fernando in the place of Mr. L. G. Hay, appointed Commissioner of Tobago. The Colonial Storekeeper's

Department was abolished by your Lordship's direction, and the divided responsibility which formerly existed in the matter of the supply and issue of stores, and which was a source of friction, and in some cases probably of waste without any compensating advantage is now at an end. There was really no use whatever for a department constituted as the Colonial Storekeeper's was. The scope of its operations was extremely limited, for it did not extend to that department of the Government, viz. :—the Public Works—which expended by far the largest quantity of stores.

Several "acting" appointments were made consequent upon the absence on leave of the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Director of Public Works, the Collector of Customs and the Inspector Commandant of Police. The absence of the Puisne Judges also necessitated temporary changes in the Judicial Department. During my absence on leave, from the 16th of September to the 2nd of November, the Government was administered by Mr. Fowler, the Colonial Secretary.

Foreign Consuls.

The following changes occurred in the Consular Staff during the year :—

Mr. Federico Fortique quitted the Colony, and the post of consul for the Republic of Venezuela is now provisionally filled by General L. D. Level, whose appointment has not, however, been yet officially recognised.

Mr. Charles Leotaud was appointed consular agent for France in succession to Mr. J. P. Pollonais, who had been provisionally acting in that capacity.

Mr. August Holler was recognised as consul for Austria-Hungary, which before was not represented in Trinidad.

Mr. T. M. Field, vice-consul for the United States, died during the absence from the Colony of the consul, Mr. Moses Sawyer.

Imports and Exports.

The customs receipts on imports in 1888 amounted to 168,277*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*

The Collector of Customs reports that they fell short of the receipts of the previous year by over 3,500*l.* "but taking into "account the loss of duty on live stock abolished and the decrease "from rum which must have gone to swell the Excise Revenue, "the falling off is reduced to a little over 1,500*l.*" The receipts on live stock imported in 1888, till the date of the repeal of the duty, amounted to 1,296*l.*; and in 1887 to 2,649*l.*

The Excise duty on rum amounted to 103,498*l.* or 4,744*l.* more than it yielded in 1887.

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The Collector states that the decreases are chiefly in goods, on which there was a large receipt in 1887; but in some cases, at all events, other causes have contributed to the falling off. For instance, the duty on carriages declined from 284*l.* in 1886, 219*l.* in 1887, to 113*l.* in 1888; that on matches fell from 4,430*l.* in 1886 to 1,695*l.* in 1887 and 922*l.* in 1888. In both these cases local manufactories have been established within the last year or two, and it is manifest that the home-made article is taking the place of the imported one. So also with regard to rum, the duty on imported rum in 1888 amounted only to 820*l.*, while the receipts under this head in the two previous years were 2,525*l.* and 1,549*l.* respectively. Coconut oil, too, of native manufacture would appear to have taken the place to some extent of the imported article, for the receipts in respect thereof have declined from 2,047*l.* in 1886 to 1,695*l.* in 1887, and 1,568*l.* in 1888. To a similar cause is doubtless due the falling off in the duty on oilmeal from 2,002*l.* in 1887 to 1,602*l.* last year, the probability being that coconut-meal, and other native-grown products which can be used as fodder, are now more largely employed than formerly. These, it appears to me, are matters rather for congratulations than otherwise, manifesting as they do the growth of industrial enterprise, which ultimately cannot but be productive of wealth to the Colony. A small falling off in the duty received on shooks and staves, from 1,748*l.* to 1,332*l.*, is also observable, which, no doubt, is to be accounted for by the fact of the smaller sugar crop, and also to the fact that a large proportion of that commodity is now shipped in bags.

Increases are to be noted in the following items:—

	1887.	1888.
	£	£
Bread - - - - -	1,114	1,361
Butter - - - - -	2,772	3,543
Flour - - - - -	17,277	18,554
Hardware - - - - -	2,164	2,341
Opium - - - - -	2,222	2,755
Oil, kerosine - - - -	14,531	15,339
„ olive - - - - -	1,218	2,206
Soap - - - - -	2,175	2,398
Textile fabrics - - - -	9,778	10,536
Tobacco, unmanufactured - - -	23,821	25,623
„ manufactured - - -	1,838	2,189
„ cigars, &c. - - - -	1,581	1,694

In addition to those I have mentioned above, the following show a decrease :—

	1887.	1888.
	£	£
Corn of all kinds - - - -	3,294	2,863
Lard - - - - - -	1,617	1,458
Leather, manufactured - - -	2,025	1,965
Malt liquor in bottle - - - -	5,424	4,924
Rice - - - - - -	22,590	21,030
Tea - - - - - -	1,164	792
Brandy - - - - -	5,118	4,533
Gin - - - - - -	4,560	3,846
Lumber - - - - -	4,824	2,949
Wine, sparkling - - - -	387	241
„ in bottle under 42 per cent. - -	924	715
„ in wood - - - -	11,341	9,958

I think the conclusion at which the collector arrived that "on "the whole the revenue from imports is in a satisfactory con- "dition" is fully justified.

The value of the exports is returned at 2,132,761*l.*, of which 1,557,710*l.* represent commodities which are the produce and manufactures of the Colony. The corresponding figures for 1887 are :—

	£
Total exports - - -	1,870,612
Exports of the produce or manufactures of the Colony - - -	1,398,610
Showing an increase respectively of -	262,149
and	159,100

The chief staple, sugar, exhibits a decline; the value of the export being estimated at 724,163*l.* against 800,595*l.* in 1887. But the cocoa crop was an excellent one, amounting to 21,352,312 lbs., estimated at 611,876*l.*, against 11,927,067 lbs. exported in 1887, which were valued at 354,420*l.* Of other exports the following are the principal :—

		£
Asphalt, Epurée -	11,235 tons, valued at	24,701
„ raw -	40,791 „ „	41,874
Bitters - -	42,830 galls. „	42,830
Coconuts - -	12,366,592 in No. „	38,530
Molasses - -	1,948,569 galls. „	42,169
Rum - -	97,974 „ „	9,081

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Shipping.

The number of sailing vessels entered at ports in this Colony in 1888 was 1,963, representing a tonnage of 137,743 tons. Of these 665 were British and 1,298 foreign, the aggregate tonnage in each case being 59,463 and 78,280.

The American and Inter-Colonial trade employed the bulk of these vessels; the tonnage of those arriving from the United States being 30,956, and those from the British West Indies 29,144. The tonnage of sailing vessels from the United Kingdom was 21,467.

The number and tonnage of sailing vessels cleared were as follows:—

	No.	Tonnage.
British - - - - -	655	55,481
Foreign - - - - -	1,311	83,319
Total - - -	1,966	138,800
Of these there were bound—		
To the United States - - -	124	54,387
„ British West Indies - - -	529	19,882
„ United Kingdom - - -	60	18,526

Steam Vessels Entered.

	No.	Tonnage.
British - - - - -	260	338,568
Foreign - - - - -	181	157,941
Total - - -	441	496,509
Of which there arrived—		
From British West Indies - - -	100	153,385
„ Venezuela - - - -	158	129,543
„ United Kingdom - - -	74	88,985

Steam Vessels Cleared.

——	No.	Tonnage.
British - - - - -	261	340,773
Foreign - - - - -	180	157,558
Total - - -	441	498,331
Of which there proceeded—		
To Venezuela - - - -	215	210,016
„ British West Indies - - -	82	130,570
„ F. West Indies - - -	28	49,808
„ United States - - - -	43	39,961
„ United Kingdom - - -	24	22,492

The following is a comparative statement of the shipping returns of 1887 and 1888:—

	Entered.			Cleared.		
	——	No.	Tonnage.	——	No.	Tonnage.
1887	Sailing -	2,089	140,825	Sailing - -	1,999	132,899
	Steam -	437	490,035	Steam - -	443	489,840
1888	Sailing -	1,963	137,743	Sailing - -	1,966	138,800
	Steam -	441	496,509	Steam - -	441	489,331

It will be observed that there is a small increase in favour of 1888, and that here, as elsewhere, steamers are gradually ousting sailing vessels from participation in the maritime trade of the Colony.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The number of prisoners committed in 1888 was 3,462 against 3,574 in 1887. The comparison is still more favourable to 1888 if the return be more closely examined, for of the above numbers there were committed for purposes of—

Penal imprisonment in 1888 - -	2,408
„ „ in 1887 - -	2,731
Showing a reduction of - -	323

TRINIDAD.

The balance is made up as follows :- -

Committed for debt in 1887	-	29
„ „ in 1888	-	28
Committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security in 1887	-	814
„ „ „ 1888	-	1,026

Of the total number committed 2,871 were men, 538 women, and 53 juveniles. In the previous year 29 juveniles only were sent to prison, and this comparatively large increase in the number of juvenile offenders is the most alarming and regrettable circumstance disclosed in the criminal statistics of the year. It is to be hoped that the establishment of reformatories under the direction of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Communions which, after much negotiation, has at last assumed a practical shape and is likely soon to be an accomplished fact will nip in the bud an evil which, if unchecked, cannot fail to have a most disastrous effect on the future of the Colony.

The cost of the prison during 1888 was 8,099*l.* 0*s.* 3½*d.*, and the amount of the prisoners' earnings is estimated at 5,323*l.* 7*s.* There were 12 deaths amongst the prisoners from natural causes and one by judicial execution.

Hospitals.

The expenditure on account of hospitals, exclusive of the establishment charges, amounted to 32,583*l.* The salaries and allowances of the medical officers entailed a further charge of 14,265*l.* plus 7,780*l.* for remuneration of hospital attendants, and 742*l.* for staff of Surgeon-General's office, amounting in the aggregate to 55,370*l.* This does not include the cost of pauper relief afforded by the wardens.

In 1871 the expenditure for hospitals, exclusive of establishments, amounted to only 11,116*l.*, the establishment charges to 7,182*l.*, and the charge for district medical officers to 3,910*l.*, making a total of 22,208*l.*, or an increase in 17 years of 33,162*l.* This large expenditure of public money is incurred almost entirely for the benefit of the poor inhabitants, and in estimating their contribution to the revenue this fact must not be lost sight of.

The poor we shall always have with us, and to relieve their wants and provide for their necessities in the case of those who are deserving is a matter of comparative simplicity. But it is not such an easy matter to deal with poverty engendered by idleness and dissolute habits, by wantonness and improvidence. I regret to observe that what may be termed professional pauperism is rapidly increasing. People who can dig are not ashamed to beg, and in a country which is a veritable fool's paradise, and where hundreds of agricultural labourers have to be imported across thousands of miles of ocean year after year at a cost of thousands of pounds, there are many able-bodied men and women, who, rather

than help themselves, prefer to wander about in destitution, dragging out a miserable existence till, enfeebled by disease, they find their way into hospital, which they leave after a longer or shorter interval only to resume their habits of vagrancy, or it may be to fill a pauper's grave.

This is no mere metaphor. It is abundantly confirmed by the records of the hospital; by the testimony of the wardens; by the balance sheet of the Colony.

Notwithstanding the enormous increase in the accommodation for the indigent sick by the establishment of district hospitals, the public hospitals in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando continue to be lamentably overcrowded. Patients cannot, for want of room, be received into the Lunatic Asylum, while in the Leper Asylum and House of Refuge the number of persons seeking admission is largely in excess of the available accommodation.

The list of the so-called unemployed grows longer and larger, not because there is no work for them to do, but because they elect not to do it on the ground of its unsuitability.

There is a large class of persons who fancy that because they can write a few ungrammatical sentences in a fairly legible hand they are degraded by doing agricultural work. I am daily receiving petitions from persons praying for employment in the Public Service who represent that they are in dire distress with their families, and not long ago when one of these was advised to apply for employment on a plantation, he wrote back to ask if it was intended to insult him.

As was recently observed by Lord Derby, such people belong to the class "who go about asking for work, but hoping that they "will not find it; whose chief employment, in fact, consists in "being one of the unemployed."

Savings Bank.

This return as compared with that of 1887 shows that the advantages of the Savings Bank are being more and more appreciated by the thrifty. The figures are:—

Number of depositors in 1887 - -	4,409
Do. do. 1888 - -	5,350
Increase - -	941
	£
Amount of deposits in 1887 - -	93,067
Do. do 1888 - -	94,302
Increase - -	1,235
Amount of withdrawals in 1887 -	83,142
Do. do. 1888 -	84,328
Increase - -	1,186

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	£
Total amount at credit of depositors on 31st December 1887 - - -	110,279
Total amount at credit of depositors on 31st December 1888, including interest accrued and which is added to the principal - - - -	122,753
Increase - -	12,474

There are 10 banks open, viz., at Port-of-Spain, San Fernando, Arima, Cedros, Couva, Montserrat, Mayaro, Princes Town, St. Joseph, and Moruga.

The Receiver-General is the manager of the Port-of-Spain bank, the Sub-Receiver, of the San Fernando branch; and the branches in the country districts are under the management of the respective wardens.

General Remarks.

The Royal Commission, which was appointed in 1887 to consider the question of reform, held its last sitting at the close of the year, and the report then agreed upon has been forwarded to your Lordship. Various causes combined to delay the preparation of the Report; but such delay can scarcely be regarded as a misfortune. The evidence of the witnesses examined as taken by a shorthand reporter, was published from time to time during the course of the inquiry in the local journals, and the fullest opportunity has thus been allowed for the expression and promulgation of the conflicting views which prevail on the subject. The matter has not, however, been regarded as a burning question. It can scarcely be said to have excited much public curiosity: it certainly never aroused general popular feeling. The great mass of the inhabitants of the Colony are satisfied to leave the issue in the hands of Her Majesty's Government, and, as I have before stated, I believe all sections will loyally accept whatever decision may be arrived at. They are doubtless aware that they cannot secure a really representative legislative body owing to a want of homogeneity in the population; and some, at all events, are inclined to view with suspicion the results of appeals by political agitators and noisy and unscrupulous demagogues to uninstructed prejudice or crass ignorance. It may with reason be said that in the most highly civilized countries, similar objections may be and are urged against constitutional reform, but that reforms are nevertheless instituted, and very properly so. But those changes are the most wholesome and beneficial which are effected gradually, and those persons who have a stake in the Colony, and have at heart its real interests, will, I think, be inclined rather to adopt the motto "*Festina lente*" than attempt to mend matters by the use of drastic remedies which, however orthodox, may produce fatal consequences.

The mortality of the year was above the average, having been augmented by an epidemic of dysentery. The total number of deaths registered was 5,778 or 30·48 per 1,000 of the population, which is now estimated by the Registrar-General to be 189,566.

6,752 births and 772 marriages were recorded during the year, an increase in the former of 346, and in the latter of 123 over the returns of 1887.

1,860 immigrants were introduced from India, and 435 who had served their term of industrial residence were provided with a return passage to Calcutta in accordance with the conditions of their contract. Indications are not wanting to show that this privilege is less valued than it was wont to be. Many who have availed themselves of it return to the Colony, in some cases at their own cost. Some who have spent their savings renew their contracts and begin again a period of indentured service which, had they found burdensome when younger, they would assuredly have used their former experience to avoid. The employers of indentured labour know it is their interest, no less than their duty, to look well after their coolies, and the smooth working of the system testifies to the mutual good understanding which prevails between employers and employed. For the latter are not slow to complain, and have every facility for doing so, when they have grievances either real or imaginary to make known. I am endeavouring to make further provision for the education of the children of the Indian population, and when this has been done the position and prospects of the coolie in Trinidad will, I think, compare favourably with that of the agricultural labourer in any part of the world.

54,683 tons of sugar were exported in 1888 against 66,875 in 1887, and although the shortness of the crop—which was due to an unfavourable season—could not fail to have some effect on the revenue, other causes contributed to reduce the deficiency arising therefrom, and the financial transactions of the year show a balance of receipts over the estimate of 3,954*l.* and in excess of the expenditure of 17,177*l.* Viewed from a commercial standpoint this cannot but be regarded as satisfactory.

Before closing this report I may mention that a contract to commence on the 1st April has, with your Lordship's sanction and the unanimous approval of the Legislative Council, been entered into for the establishment of a steam service round the island touching at Tobago and direct with New York in connexion with the fruit trade. This new departure will, I believe, in a few years time add materially to the sources of the Colony's wealth, and, coupled with the extension of the railway system now under consideration, which will bring into communication with the capital and the seaboard the fertile districts of the interior, Trinidad ought to, and I have no doubt will, continue to make such progress as has heretofore marked her course, and, as may

TRINIDAD.

reasonably be expected, from the productiveness of her soil and her yet undeveloped resources.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 69.

TRINIDAD (TOBAGO).

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1888.

(In continuation of Colonial Possessions Report No. 6.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1889.



LONDON:
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1889.

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NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

No.	Colony.	Year.
19	Barbados	1887
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,
43	Victoria	,,
44	British Bechuanaland	,,
45	British New Guinea	,,
46	Newfoundland	,,
47	New Zealand	,,
48	Heligoland	1888
49	Gibraltar	,,
50	Bermuda	,,
51	Trinidad	,,
52	Turk's Islands	,,
53	Jamaica (Coolie Immigration)	,,
54	Falkland Islands	,,
55	Bahamas	,,
56	Jamaica	1887–8
57	Malta	1888
58	St. Helena	,,
59	Straits	,,
60	Natal	,,
61	Gambia	,,
62	Barbados	,,
63	Labuan	,,
64	Grenada	,,
65	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
66	Gold Coast (Gold Mines)	1889
67	St. Lucia	1888
68	Lagos	1887

No. 69.

TRINIDAD (TOBAGO).

Administrator FOWLER to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Trinidad,
August 3, 1889.

FORWARDED for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Signed) HENRY FOWLER,
Administrator.

SIR, Government Office, July 15, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1888, together with my Report thereon.

2. The delay in furnishing this Report has been caused by pressure of work consequent on the annexation of this Island to Trinidad.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. G. HAY,
Commissioner.

His Excellency Henry Fowler, Esq.,
Administrator of the Government
of Trinidad and Tobago.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the Year 1888.

Taxation.

There was no alteration under this head.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1888 amounted to 10,489*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*

The expenditure was 8,155*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, the result being that the year which commenced with a deficit of 562*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, ended with surplus assets of 1,771*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*

o 59853. Wt. 18437.

TRINIDAD (TOBAGO.)

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years have been :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1884 - - - -	11,370	13,481
1885 - - - -	10,825	12,031
1886 - - - -	8,813	9,529
1887 - - - -	9,386	6,994
1888 - - - -	10,489	8,155

The principal sources of revenue were customs duties, which produced 5,039*l.*, excise duties 1,845*l.*, land and house taxes 1,695*l.*, and licences 877*l.*

The expenditure was, with the exception of that of 1887, the lowest on record, and included 6,083*l.* for the several departments, 944*l.* for public works, and 1,128*l.* for various services.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports was 28,847*l.*, and that of exports 38,900*l.*

The table below shows the value of the imports and exports for the past five years :—

Year.	Great Britain.		British West Indies.		Foreign Countries.		Totals.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1884 -	12,946	26,081	20,669	3,218	42	12,320	33,657	41,619
1885 -	16,334	26,413	14,158	6,201	263	5,822	30,755	38,436
1886 -	11,655	8,552	8,827	9,792	17	547	20,499	18,891
1887 -	13,669	21,547	9,369	8,433	79	2,927	23,117	32,907
1888 -	15,752	27,809	11,485	7,451	1,610	3,640	28,847	38,900

It will be seen that the value of the imports from, and exports to, foreign countries has increased considerably during the past year. This was owing to the means of direct communication with New York afforded by the steamers of the "Atlantic and West India line," which called here more or less regularly, bringing American food-stuffs and kerosine oil, &c., and taking sugar to America. It would have been thought that the merchants would have availed themselves generally of the advantage of importing directly goods from New York instead of obtaining these goods through middlemen at Barbados. The private interests of manyof them, however, especially those owning the small vessels that trade

between the two islands, require that the direct trade should be shut out. There was practically only one firm (the local agents for the "Atlantic and West Indian Company") that imported direct from America. That the cheapest and best market will be the one from which the merchants will ultimately obtain their goods is merely a question of time.

The subjoined statement gives the quantities of sugar, rum, molasses, cocoa, and cocoanuts, the principal products of the Island, exported during the years 1884 to 1888:—

Year.	Sugar.	Rum.	Molasses.	Cocoa.	Cocoanuts.
	Cwts.	Gallons.	Cwts.	Bags.	No.
1884 -	75,394	27,650	11,634	75	850,584
1885 -	51,946	22,000	8,274	59	567,979
1886 -	13,310	4,500	2,299	106	302,794
1887 -	47,043	14,400	8,961	113	654,627
1888 -	45,072	15,500	5,565	147	699,341

The exportation of cocoa has not increased in the manner that could be wished, for there is little doubt that if grown in suitable soil—and there is plenty such here—and cultivated as it should be, cocoa would become a very valuable industry. It should be stated, however, that the small quantity exported does not by any means represent the crop, a comparatively large quantity being consumed locally, and this remark applies equally to coffee. The falling off in the importation of cocoa and coffee, as shown by the appended table, proves that the requirements in this direction are met to a great extent by local products.

Cocoa and Coffee.

Year.	Imported.
	Lbs.
1884 - - - - -	4,173
1885 - - - - -	5,949
1886 - - - - -	2,883
1887 - - - - -	2,396
1888 - - - - -	1,196

Legislation.

Three Ordinances were passed in 1888, and of these only one was of any importance. It is entitled "An Ordinance to regulate "the working of the system of sugar-cane cultivation known as "the metairie system."

It was expected that this law would obviate the occasional misunderstandings which arise between the planter and the metayer, but I fear that this expectation has not been realised.

TRINIDAD (TOBAGO).

Civil Establishment.

On the 13th April 1888 Mr. R. B. Llewelyn, the Administrator, left the Island to administer the government of St. Vincent.

Mr. L. G. Hay, Sub-receiver of Trinidad, assumed the administration of the government on the same day.

Shipping.

One hundred and eighty-five vessels, of which 47 were steamers, entered during the year, their aggregate tonnage amounted to 55,907 tons.

Agriculture.

A new departure in this direction was taken by two planters in the course of the year. One attempted to introduce the cultivation of cotton and the other added tobacco to the sugar industry. That these products can be grown here was a fact that needed no demonstration, the cotton produced formerly in Tobago having been considered of exceptionally fine quality, while tobacco grows readily if planted at the proper season. These attempts may, as experiments, be considered satisfactory, more especially that, in regard to tobacco, one of the gentlemen alluded to having produced a very fair sample, the only fault in connexion with it being its imperfect curing.

The Governor of Trinidad, who takes a very lively interest in the development of new industries, and to whom I submitted a sample of Tobago tobacco, was good enough to allow this island to benefit by the visit of a Cuban tobacco expert whose services had been engaged by the Trinidad Government. He reported most favourably of the tobacco that he saw and of the soil in which it was grown; and he further gave those interested in the question advice of the greatest value as to the growing and proper method of curing tobacco.

There is always much disinclination to embark in new agricultural industries, and in this case the example set has not been followed; but there is little doubt that, should the efforts of the pioneers be ultimately successful, the cultivation of cotton and tobacco will not be restricted to one or two individuals.

Prison.

The daily average number in prison during the past year was 15. The gaol is a building well adapted for its purposes; it contains 8 separate cells and 12 associated wards.

Criminal Statistics.

There were fewer cases brought before the magistrates in 1888 than there have been for many years, the number for the past

year being only 605. The summary convictions were also proportionately low, being 338 in 1888 as against 384 in 1887, 373 in 1886, and 463 in 1885.

In the Supreme Court the convictions were three in number. In 1887 there were 11, in 1886 15, and in 1885 11.

The 40 convictions in the Supreme Court during the last four years were thus made up :—

1. For offences against the person - -	11
2. For arson - - - -	3
3. For offences against property other than arson - - - - -	23
4. For other offences - - -	3
Total - - -	40

The people of Tobago are, as has been often reported, a law-abiding set, as the foregoing low record of crime abundantly proves.

Hospital.

There were 120 admissions during the year, the daily average number of patients in hospital was 11.

Nine deaths occurred.

In addition to the ordinary hospital routine much excellent work was performed gratuitously by the Government Medical Officers in connexion with Yaws, a specific and highly contagious skin disease of African origin. The Colonial surgeon, to whose lot fell the greater share of the labour, has submitted a report of his experience of the treatment of the disease for a period extending over a year. A copy of this report is forwarded herewith.

General Remarks.

The year 1888, which was the last of the existence of Tobago as a separate Colony, may be considered financially and generally a most satisfactory one.

The long impending annexation to Trinidad became an accomplished fact on the 1st January 1889.

(Signed) L. G. HAY,
Commissioner.

Tobago, 15th July 1889.

TRINIDAD (TOBAGO).

REPORT on YAWS, by the COLONIAL SURGEON.

YOUR HONOUR, Scarborough, October 8, 1888.

ON September 12th of last year the Government instituted an attempt to extirpate or at least to control the disease of Yaws, generally supposed to be on the increase throughout the Island, by supplying gratuitously medical advice and medicines to all persons suffering from it. I, however, was the only medical officer in a position to begin the work at that date, the unavoidable delay in procuring the large quantity of drugs required preventing the other gentlemen from starting operations till early in this year. My experience of the treatment has therefore extended over a full year, and your Honour has thought it better to have a report for that period than to wait till the end of December.

The Government's scheme is a partial and therefore in some ways a defective one. It makes no provision in the first place for the isolation of Yaws patients, but this is an unavoidable defect, as it is of course quite impossible in the present financial state of the Colony to provide the Yaws Hospitals which would be necessary to accommodate the large number of persons suffering from the disease. But in another respect the scheme is an extremely unsatisfactory one, and this is a matter which, in my opinion, might be easily remedied. Attendance for treatment is only compulsory for children under eight years of age, while persons over that age may attend or not as they please. It must be obvious to every one that this arrangement throws the greatest possible obstacle in the way of the Medical Officers, especially in the case of a disease which requires such close watching and persistent treatment as Yaws does. The children under 8 were only 247, or 39·4 per cent. of the 626 patients treated by me during the year under consideration. Over their parents and guardians I had a certain amount of control, and I prosecuted several defaulters before the police magistrate, but the remaining 379 were quite independent of me, and knew it, and this made the carrying out of the treatment properly a matter of impossibility. I recommended early in this year that attendance for treatment be made compulsory on all suffering from the disorder. The Board of Health did the same thing, and I beg to say now that my conviction is stronger than ever that unless this is done the success of the scheme will be seriously imperilled. I believe the objection to adopting any such measure is that, in the absence of Yaws Hospitals, it would be an unwarrantable interference with the liberty of the subject; but a person suffering from Yaws is really a serious menace to the health of the community and should be treated accordingly. Any measure, however apparently severe, should be adopted without hesitation which would have even a tendency to lessen the number of cases of this loathsome disease.

As I have said, I treated during the year 626 cases at the dispensary of the Colonial Hospital. Each patient attended, on an average, about seven and a half times, making a total of

attendances of over 4,700. Of these cases, 252 were from the North side or No. 3 District, and came to Scarborough for treatment during the few months which elapsed before Dr. Purser was in a position to attend them. The necessity of transferring a considerable uncured balance to him has slightly confused my results, as it would be a very difficult matter to trace the history of these cases after their transfer, and I did not attempt to do so.

Thirteen adult cases were discharged for persistent neglect.

The cases noted as cured were 345 out of 626, or 55·1 per cent. Besides these, 46 patients, through ignorance or carelessness, ceased to attend when they were noted as "almost well," or "practically cured." Probably most of these were cured shortly afterwards.

The relapses reported to me were 42 out of 345 cures, or 12·1 per cent. Of these 17, or 40 per cent., were cured, and some are still under treatment. Two cases relapsed twice. Doubtless there were more relapses not reported to me.

The average duration of treatment of the cured cases has risen from 5·3 weeks, when I reported in January, to almost exactly 8 weeks at present. This means that cases are now kept longer under observation than they were formerly.

The average duration of cases before coming under treatment has fallen, from 50 weeks in the first 300 cases, to 8 in the last 100. This indicates that the people are coming in for treatment earlier than before. Still there ought to be further improvement in this respect.

As before, the legitimate children outnumbered the illegitimate, being 220 to 209. As I pointed out in my last Report, this is evidently due to the greater anxiety of the respectable married class to have their children attended to.

There were two deaths during the year. These were of young children who had just come under treatment, and were really due to neglect on the part of the parents.

I attach tables of the ages, residences, and occupations of patients or their parents.

The amount voted for this current year for the purchase of drugs, &c. for the treatment of Yaws throughout the Island was 150*l*. This will probably be entirely expended.

A short time ago I addressed a circular letter to such residents in Nos. 1 and 2 Districts as would be able to supply information, asking for their general impression as to the results of the year's treatment. I have been disappointed in not receiving replies from all the gentlemen addressed, but such as have written have spoken very favourably.

Mr. Richardson, of Auchenskeoch, says :—

"There have been very pleasing results at Riseland Settlement and the places adjacent."

Rev. Mr. Thomas, of Montgomery, says :—

"There are fewer cases in this neighbourhood than there were some months ago and they seem of a milder type."

TRINIDAD (TOBAGO).

Mr. Dalrymple, of Wilson Road, says :—
"The results of the Government's attempts to deal with Yaws have been so far favourable."

Mr. Newton Browne, Inspector of Police, says :—
"I see fewer cases of Yaws in Scarborough and the vicinity now than I did formerly, and the cases are not so severe as they were a year ago. I believe the Government's scheme is having a good effect."

Mr. Carew, Scarborough, says :—
"My impression is that the disease is much diminished in this neighbourhood."

Rev. Mr. Thaeler, Moriah, says :—
"There can be no doubt that the treatment has been beneficial, and I should be very sorry to hear of the Government's discontinuing it."

Mr. E. D. Williams, Schoolmaster, Scarborough, says :—
"I am certain, and there is also a consensus of opinion, that the efforts of the Government are meeting with very marked success in dealing with the dreadful Yaws disease."

Mr. Luke R. Toby, Lambeau, says :—
"There are fewer cases in this village than there were a year ago."

Mr. Sladden, Carnbee, says :—
"I see fewer cases of Yaws in Sandy Point than I did some months back."

Mr. Phillips, Schoolmaster, Parlatuvier, says :—
"There are only three cases of Yaws in this village at present, and I am happy to say that my school is now largely attended. The inhabitants of Parlatuvier cannot find words to express their thankfulness to the Government for its efforts to suppress Yaws."

Mr. Meyers, Schoolmaster, Scarborough, says :—
"In my opinion the number of cases of Yaws has considerably decreased, especially at Morue, Quiton and in the towns of Scarborough."

Other opinions are to the same effect and are encouraging.

My own personal impression is that the scheme, partial and difficult to work as it is, is likely to produce decidedly beneficial results.

I have to express my thanks to Mr. Andrew, Superintendent and Dispenser at the Colonial Hospital, for the efficient and cheerful way in which he has done, gratuitously, all the dispensing work for the Yaws patients.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN P. TULLOCH,
Colonial Surgeon.

His Honour L. G. Hay, Esq.,
Administrator.

Return showing Number of Patients at various Ages.

Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	Over 60.
8	160	183	118	45	52	26	21	11
1·3 p.c.	25·5 p.c.	29·2 p.c.	18·8 p.c.	7·2 p.c.	8·5 p.c.	4·3 p.c.	3·4 p.c.	1·8 p.c.

Return showing Residences of Patients, and Districts.

District No. I.

Scarboro' and suburbs - - - -	74
Mt. Grace - - - - -	47
John Dial - - - - -	13
Montpelier - - - - -	5
Dunvegan - - - - -	4
Whim - - - - -	3
Concordia - - - - -	1
Total - - - -	147

District No. II.

Canaan - - - - -	29
Tyson Hall - - - - -	26
Riseland - - - - -	25
Bethel - - - - -	20
Buccoo Point - - - -	17
Lambeau - - - - -	11
Bethany - - - - -	9
Orange Hill - - - - -	7
Prospect - - - - -	7
Bethlehem - - - - -	6
Patience Hill - - - -	5
New Grange - - - - -	4
Hopeton - - - - -	2
Mt. Pleasant - - - -	2
Hope Hill - - - - -	1
Bon Accord - - - - -	1
Mary's Hill - - - - -	1
Total - - - -	173

District No. III.

Black Rock	43
Moriah	41
Plymouth	32
Mason Hall	27
Castara	27
Franklyns	14
Runnemede	13
Les Coteaux	12
Indian Walk	11
Woodlands	5
Mt. Dillon	4
Adventure	4
Mt. Ararat	4
Parlatuvier	4
Hooghly Bush	2
Bethesda	2
Golden Lane	1
Culloden	1
Courland	1
Courland Castle	1
Belmont	1
Pleasant Prospect	1
Back Bay	1
Total	252

District No. IV.

Mt. St. George	51
Blenman	3
Total	54

Return showing Occupations of Patients or of Parents of Patients.

Labourers	493
Carpenters	25
Washerwomen	15
Coopers	12
Masons	11
Blacksmiths	11
Seamstresses	11
Tailors	10
Sailors	9
Domestic servants	5
Beggars	3

Boilermen - - - - -	2
Superintendents - - - -	2
Bakers - - - - -	2
Fishermen - - - - -	2
Hucksters - - - - -	2
Schoolmasters - - - -	2
Grooms - - - - -	2
Apprentice - - - - -	1
Shopkeeper - - - - -	1
Saddler - - - - -	1
Carter - - - - -	1
No occupation - - - -	3
Total - - - -	626

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HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

No. 43.

VICTORIA.

REPORT ON THE STATISTICS OF THE COLONY FOR 1887.

[In continuation of [C.—5249.–1] February 1888. (Colonial Report, No. 4.)]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1889.

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NEW SERIES OF REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
1	Virgin Islands	1886
2	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
3	Gambia	,,
4	Victoria	,,
5	New Zealand	,,
6	Tobago	1887
7	Gibraltar	,,
8	Gold Coast (Governor's visit to the Eastern Districts).	1888
9	Heligoland	1887
10	Natal	,,
11	Straits Settlements	,,
12	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports, 1886 and 1887).	—
13	Jamaica and Turk's Island	1887
14	Newfoundland	1886
15	Grenada	1887
16	Trinidad	,,
17	Bermuda	,,
18	St. Helena	,,
19	Barbados	,,
20	Lagos (Sanitary Report for 1887)	,,
21	Bahamas	,,
22	Labuan	,,
23	Malta	,,
24	Straits (Penang and Malacca)	,,
25	St. Vincent	,,
26	Sierra Leone (Report on Medical Department)	,,
27	Leeward Islands	,,
28	British Guiana	,,
29	Western Australia	,,
30	Falkland Islands	,,
31	Basutoland	,,
32	St. Lucia	,,
33	Hong Kong	,,
34	Fiji	,,
35	British Honduras	,,
36	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	,,
37	Ceylon	,,
38	British New Guinea	,,
39	British Guiana	1884 and 1885
40	Lagos (Western District)	1888
41	Gambia	1887
42	Sierra Leone	,,

No. 43.

VICTORIA.

[In continuation of [C.—5249.-1] February 1888.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Melbourne,
November 23, 1888.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit as usual a copy of the Digest of the Statistics of this Colony for the year 1887.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1887, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

Population, 1887.

1. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1887 was as follows :—

Estimated Population, 31st December 1887.

Males - - - -	550,044
Females - - - -	486,075
Total - -	1,036,119

Mode of computing population estimate.

2. This estimate shows an increase of 33,076 (18,592 in the males and 14,484 in the females) upon that for the end of 1886, published in the last digest. The figures have, as usual, been derived from the numbers returned at the last census, with the addition of those expressing the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures since the census was taken. The official records of births, deaths, and arrivals have been taken as they stand, but the record of departures being known to be defective an allowance has been made for those unrecorded, which are estimated to have amounted in 1887 to 5,988, viz., 4,754 of males and 1,234 of females, or to 35,988, viz., 28,754 of males and 7,234 of females, during the whole period since the census was taken. These numbers have accordingly been deducted from the totals. Had no such deductions been made, the apparent population at the end of 1887 would have been 1,072,107, viz., 578,798 males and 493,309 females.

Mean population, 1887.

3. Supposing the apparent population had been correct, the mean or average population during 1887 would have been 1,052,575,

VICTORIA.

viz., 567,125 males and 485,450 females; but, calculating upon the basis of the reduced estimate, the mean population of the year may be set down as follows:—

Estimated Mean Population, 1887.

Males - - - - -	541,070
Females - - - -	478,630
Total -	1,019,700

Increase of population, 1887.

4. According to the records of births and deaths, and of immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1887 was 39,064, viz., 23,346 males and 15,718 females. Of this increase, 17,038, consisting of 7,663 males and 9,375 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths; and the remainder, viz., 22,026, consisting of 15,683 males and 6,343 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Population of Australasian Colonies.

5. The following table shows the estimated population of each Australasian Colony at the end of 1886 and 1887, and the increase of each during the 12 months ended with the latter:—

Estimated Population of Australasian Colonies, 1886 *and* 1887.

Colony.	Estimated Population at end of		Increase.
	1886.	1887.	
Victoria - - - -	1,003,043	1,036,119	33,076
New South Wales -	1,001,966	1,042,919	40,953
Queensland - - -	342,614	366,940	24,326
South Australia - - -	312,758	312,421	−337
Western Australia - -	39,584	42,488	2,904
Total - -	2,699,965	2,800,887	100,922
Tasmania - - -	137,211	142,478	5,267
New Zealand - - -	589,386	603,361	13,975
Grand Total -	3,426,562	3,546,726	120,164

NOTE.—The *apparent* population of Victoria was 991,869 at the end of 1885, and 1,033,043 at the end of 1886; that of New South Wales was 980,578, and 1,030,901 at the end of the same two years. The *apparent* increase of population in 1886 was 41,174 in the case of Victoria, and 50,323 in the case of New South Wales. The population in this table is exclusive of Aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.

VICTORIA.

Colonies which have amended their population estimates.

6. Both Victoria and New South Wales have reduced their estimates of population to allow for unrecorded departures which have taken place since the census of 1881 was taken, the former by 35,988 and the latter by 35,286. Moreover, Queensland and New Zealand took censuses in 1885, which led to a reduction on previous estimates of 11,427 persons in the case of the former and 7,194 in that of the latter. It appears, however, that these two Colonies have not reduced their population estimates since 1885, whilst the other three Colonies have not done so since 1881, and as the record of persons departing is more or less incomplete in all of them there is little doubt that the figures given, especially in the case of the last three Colonies, overstate the truth. It is believed that the estimate for South Australia is for that Colony exclusive of the Northern Territory, which at the census of 1881 contained 4,521 inhabitants, of whom all but 717 were Chinese.

Order of Colonies in respect to increase of population.

7. The subjoined figures show the estimated per-centage of increase of the population of each Colony during the year 1887, the Colonies being arranged in order according to the rate of increase in each :—

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportionate Increase of Population, 1887.

	Per Cent.
1. Western Australia - - -	7·34
2. Queensland - - - -	7·10
3. New South Wales - - -	4·09
4. Tasmania - - - -	3·62
5. Victoria - - - -	3·30
6. New Zealand - - - -	2·37
7. South Australia - - -	·11

NOTE.—If no allowance had been made for probable unrecorded departures, the apparent increase of population in 1887 would have been at the rate of 3·89 per cent. in the case of Victoria and 4·72 per cent. in the case of New South Wales.

Increase in Australia and Australasia, 1887.

8. By the totals in the table following paragraph 5 it may be ascertained that in 1887 the population of continental Australasia increased by 3·74 per cent., and the population of continental and insular Australasia combined increased by 3·21 per cent.

Increase of Australasian populations since census.

9. During the six years and nine months which intervened between the census of 1881 and the end of 1887 it is estimated

VICTORIA.

that the following increases took place in the populations of the different Colonies :—

Increase of Australasian Populations, 1881 *to* 1887.

Colony.	Population. Census of 1881.*	Increase in 6¾ years.	
		Numerical.	Centesimal.
Victoria - - - -	862,346	173,773	20·15
New South Wales - - -	751,468	291,451	38·78
Queensland - - -	213,525	153,415	71·85
South Australia - - -	279,865	32,556	11·63
Western Australia - - -	29,708	12,780	43·02
Total - -	2,136,912	663,975	31·07
Tasmania - - - -	115,705	26,473	22·88
New Zealand - - -	489,933	113,428	23·15
Grand Total -	2,742,550	803,876	29·31

Probable Australasian populations, 1891.

10. Judging from the increases shown in the table, it may be fairly estimated that when the next simultaneous census of the Colonies is taken, viz., in 1891, the inhabitants of the Australian continent will be found to number at least 3,100,000, and those of that continent with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand will be found to number 4,000,000.

Time Victorian population will double.

11. Between the censuses of 1871 and 1881 the increase of the Victorian population was only 18 per cent., or about 1·6 per cent. per annum. At this rate the population of this Colony would double itself in 42 years. There is reason to believe, however, that since the last census the population has been increasing at a much faster rate, and that it may be expected to double itself in a considerably shorter period.

Birthplaces, 1887.

12. The following table, with certain exceptions, which will be referred to shortly, has been constructed upon the assumption that

* Exclusive of Aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.

the respective nationalities existed in 1887 in nearly the same relative proportions as they did when the census was taken :—

Birthplaces of the People of Victoria about the middle of 1887 (*Estimated*).

Birthplaces.	Mean Population, 1887.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - - - -	301,374	308,477	609,851
Other Australasian Colonies - -	23,300	25,450	48,750
England and Wales - - -	99,650	65,160	164,810
Scotland - - - -	30,598	23,037	53,635
Ireland - - - -	48,105	47,752	95,857
Other British Possessions - -	7,076	4,269	11,345
Germany - - -	7,228	2,547	9,775
The United States - - -	1,948	738	2,686
China - - -	11,880	87	11,967*
Other Foreign Countries -	9,911	1,113	11,024
Total - - -	541,070	478,630	1,019,700
ALLEGIANCE.			
British Subjects (by birth) - -	510,103	474,145	984,248
Foreign Subjects (by birth) - -	30,967	4,485	35,452

Native Australians and Chinese.

13. The relative proportions of the different nationalities shown in this table are about identical with those which existed when the census was taken, except those of the natives of Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies, in calculating which an allowance has been made for the births and deaths which have occurred since the census, and the Chinese, the number of whom has been brought on from the census by means of the returns of arrivals, departures, and deaths of Chinese which have occurred since the census was taken.

Chinese in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

14. According to information brought down to April, May, or June 1888, the total number of Chinese in the Australasian Colonies was then 51,330, the increase since the census of 1881

* It may be estimated that in June 1888 the Chinese in the Colony numbered 12,564. This does not include half-castes, of whom there were probably not less than 400 in Victoria.

VICTORIA.

having been 7,624. The following are the numbers in each Colony compared with the numbers returned at the census of 1881 :—

Chinese in Australasian Colonies, 1881 *and* 1888.

Colony.	Number of Chinese.		
	1881. (Enumerated.)	1888. (Estimated.)	Increase or Decrease (−).
Victoria - - - -	12,128	12,564	436
New South Wales - -	10,205	16,828	6,623
Queensland - - -	11,229	8,950	−2,279
South Australia* - -	4,151	6,900	2,749
Western Australia - -	145	400	255
Total - -	37,858	45,642	7,784†
Tasmania - - -	844	1,000	156
New Zealand - - -	5,004	4,688	−316
Grand Total -	43,706	51,330	7,624†

NOTE.—The estimates for 1888 are for the following dates:—Victoria, 1st June ; New South Wales, 18th May ; Queensland and Tasmania, 1st April ; South Australia, 28th May ; Western Australia, 31st May ; New Zealand, 30th April.

Religions, 1887.

15. The next table contains a statement of the estimated number of persons of different religions in Victoria about the middle of 1887, the proportions which those of each religion bear to the total population being identical with those obtaining at the last census; except in the case of the Buddhists, Confucians, &c., which, as at the census, have been considered to be in the proportion of 92 per cent. to the number of Chinese :—

Religions of the People about the Middle of 1887 (*Estimated*).

Religious Denominations.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Church of England‡ - - -	197,819	171,254	369,073
Presbyterians - - -	82,619	74,475	157,094
Methodists§ - - - -	65,071	63,371	128,442
Independents - - -	11,842	11,678	23,520
Baptists - - - -	11,680	12,444	24,124
Other Protestants - - -	17,709	12,923	30,632
Roman Catholics‖ - - -	121,114	119,945	241,059
Jews - - - - -	2,868	2,249	5,117
Buddhists, Confucians, &c. - -	10,962	48	11,010
Residue - - - -	19,386	10,243	29,629
Total - - -	541,070	478,630	1,019,700

* Including Northern Territory. † Net figures.
‡ Including also Free Church of England and Protestants not otherwise defined.
§ Including also Bible Christians.
‖ Including also Catholics not otherwise defined.

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Ages, 1887.

16. In the following table the numbers of either sex have been carefully brought on in quinquennial periods of age from the census of 1881 by means of a calculation based upon the age at which the survivors of those then returned and born since must have arrived about the middle of 1887, the numbers being supplemented by the excess of arrivals over departures, as recorded by the immigration authorities; the ages of those composing such excess having been estimated :—

Ages of the People about the Middle of 1887 (*Estimated*).

Ages.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years - - -	64,721	61,618	126,339
5 to 10 „ - - -	58,225	56,007	114,232
10 „ 15 „ - - -	56,394	55,043	111,437
15 „ 20 „ - - -	59,033	56,244	115,277
20 „ 25 „ - - -	59,701	54,522	114,223
25 „ 30 „ - - -	52,947	48,004	100,951
30 „ 35 „ - - -	32,997	29,621	62,618
35 „ 40 „ - - -	23,793	21,585	45,378
40 „ 45 „ - - -	22,857	20,620	43,477
45 „ 50 „ - - -	24,727	20,382	45,109
50 „ 55 „ - - -	26,096	18,813	44,909
55 „ 60 „ - - -	25,091	15,228	40,319
60 „ 65 „ - - -	15,446	8,925	24,371
65 „ 70 „ - - -	10,195	6,133	16,328
70 „ 75 „ - - -	5,203	3,220	8,423
75 „ 80 „ - - -	2,325	1,705	4,030
80 years and upwards - -	1,319	960	2,279
Total - - -	541,070	478,630	1,019,700

Relative effectiveness, 1881 and 1887. Persons.

17. According to the estimated ages of the population of Victoria at the middle of 1887, a large accession to the population (amounting to 81 per cent. of the whole increase) at the stronger period of life, and a comparatively small one at the weaker periods, has taken place since the census; in consequence of this the numbers in every 10,000 living capable of aiding, protecting, and supporting the others rose in 6¼ years from 5,908 to 6,243, whilst

VICTORIA.

those to be aided, protected, and supported became reduced from 4,092 to 3,757. This is made plain by the figures in the following table :—

Total Population of Victoria at Supporting and Dependent Ages, 1881 *and* 1887.

Ages.	Numbers.			Numbers in every 10,000 Persons living.	
	1881. (April 3.)	1887. (June 30.)	Increase in 6¼ years.	1881. (April 3.)	1887. (June 30.)
Under 15 years -	331,762	352,008	20,246	3,847	3,452
15 to 65 years -	509,479	636,632	127,153	5,908	6,243
65 years and upwards -	21,105	31,060	9,955	245	305
Total - -	862,346	1,019,700	157,354	10,000	10,000

Occupations, 1887.

18. The occupations of the people of Victoria have been brought on by proportion to about the middle of 1887, in the same manner as the religions, the only exception being the miners, an estimate of the number of which has been obtained from the Department of Mines :—

Occupations of the People, about the Middle of 1887 *(Estimated).*

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ministering to government - - -	5,681	287	5,968
,, religion - - -	1,299	239	1,538
,, health - - -	2,327	1,867	4,194
,, law - - - -	1,515	—	1,515
,, education - - -	3,192	4,882	8,074
,, art, science, and literature -	3,138	1,244	4,382
Traders - - - - -	17,314	2,297	19,611
Assisting in exchange of money or commodities - - - - -	8,008	766	8,774
Ministering to entertaining and clothing -	17,747	31,637	49,384
Domestic servants - - - -	3,517	25,511	29,028
Contractors, artisans, and mechanics -	55,514	1,244	56,758
Miners* - - - -	26,000	—	26,000*
Engaged in pursuits subsidiary to mining -	1,028	—	1,028
,, pastoral pursuits and agriculture	93,226	48,390	141,616
,, pursuits subsidiary to grazing and agriculture - -	4,004	1,197	5,201

* According to the census proportions, the number of miners should be 42,636, but the officers of the Department of Mines state the number does not exceed 26,000. The difference (16,636) has been set down as "unspecified" near the foot of the table.

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Engaged in land carriage - - -	17,423	383	17,806
„ sea navigation - - -	3,950	48	3,998
Dealing in food - - - -	16,773	2,058	18,831
Labourers - - - - -	28,785	—	28,785
Engaged in miscellaneous pursuits - -	1,136	96	1,232
Of independent means - - -	2,868	1,340	4,208
Wives, widows, children, relatives, scholars -	200,953	350,836	551,789
Public burthen - - - -	7,575	4,260	11,835
Of no occupation - - -	1,461	48	1,509
Unspecified - - - -	16,636	—	16,636
Total - -	541,070	478,630	1,019,700

Caution necessary in accepting figures.

19. In the absence of accurate information of a recent date, this table, like the tables of birthplaces and religions in 1887, has, except in the case of miners, necessarily been for the most part constructed according to the proportions prevailing at the census; but there is no doubt that important changes have taken place since then, consequently the figures in the table must be taken only for what they may be worth.

Urban and rural population.

20. The following is a division of the area of Victoria into three districts, also the estimated mean population of each district during 1887. The first of these districts (Greater Melbourne) is that comprised within a radius of 10 miles from the centre of Melbourne; * the second, the space outside that limit embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former); and the third, the remainder of the Colony:—

Urban and Rural Population, 1887.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Mean Population, 1887.		
		Total.	Proportions per cent.	Persons to the Square Mile.
Urban { Metropolitan - -	256	391,546	38·40	1,529
Urban { Extra Metropolitan† -	376	187,758	18·41	499
Extra Urban or Rural - -	87,252	440,396	43·19	5
Total of Victoria - -	87,884	1,019,700	100·00	11·6

* Exclusive of water, which covers about 58 square miles of the area named.

† In addition to the present extra-metropolitan cities, towns, and boroughs, certain towns, which were at one time independent municipalities, but have since become portions of shires, are included in this line. These, with their populations, as returned at the census of 1881, are as follow:—Avoca, 904; Beechworth, 2,399; Chiltern, 1,243; Gisborne, 379; Graytown, 161; Guildford, 765; Jamieson, 328; Kilmore, 1,092; Kyneton, 3,062; Maldon, 2,809; South Barwon, 1,474; Steiglitz, 275; Taradale, 1,466, Walhalla (1885), 1,800; Woodend, 1,148. The populations of the present cities, towns, and boroughs, also those of the shires, are given in a subsequent table.

VICTORIA.

Increasing proportion of metropolitan population.

21. In 1887 the population of the metropolis was equal to nearly two-fifths of that of the whole Colony. This proportion has a tendency to increase, as will be observed by the following figures :—

Proportion of Population of Greater Melbourne to Total Population of Victoria.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
1861 -	- 25·89	1881 -	- 32·81
1871 -	- 28·87	1887 -	- 38·40

Metropolitan populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881.

22. The following is a statement of the population of the metropolis or principal city of each of the Australasian Colonies according to the census of 1881. The figures in all cases denote the number of inhabitants living in the immediate suburbs as well as those resident within the corporate limits :—

Metropolitan Populations of the Australasian Colonies, 1881.

Name of City.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Melbourne - - -	139,006	143,941	282,947
Sydney - - - -	113,928	110,283	224,211
Adelaide - - -	51,716	52,148	103,864
Brisbane - - -	15,296	15,813	31,109
Hobart - - - -	13,162	14,086	27,248
Wellington - - -	10,226	10,337	20,563
Perth - - - -	2,981	2,841	5,822

Metropolitan populations of Australasian Colonies, 1887.

23. Estimates, without distinction of sexes, of the population of all these cities, except Perth, have been made for the year 1887, with the following result :—

*Metropolitan Populations of the Australasian Colonies,** 1887.

	Both Sexes.
Melbourne - - - -	391,546
Sydney - - - -	348,695
Adelaide - - - -	111,300
Brisbane - - - -	55,475
Hobart - - - -	31,251
Wellington - - -	30,123†

* The population of Suva, the capital of Fiji, is stated to be 690.

† According to the census of New Zealand, 1886, the population of Wellington was then 25,925. Three New Zealand towns had larger proportions, viz., Christchurch with 44,688, Dunedin with 45,518, and Auckland with 57,048 inhabitants.

Proportions of metropolitan to total populations.

24. When the census of 1881 was taken, the metropolitan population formed a larger proportion of the total population in South Australia than it did in any other of the Australasian Colonies. The following were the proportions in each Colony :—

Proportion of Metropolitan to Total Populations in Australasian Colonies, 1881.

	Per Cent.
Adelaide	37·11
Melbourne	32·81
Sydney	29·84
Hobart	23·55
Perth	19·60
Brisbane	14·57
Wellington	4·20

Proportions of the sexes in Australasian capitals.

25. In Hobart, Melbourne, Brisbane, Wellington, and Adelaide when the census of 1881 was taken, females were more numerous than males, but in the other chief cities named the latter were slightly in excess. The following are the proportions of the sexes according to the returns of that census:—

Proportions of the Sexes in Capitals of Australasian Colonies, 1881.

	Females per 100 Males.
Hobart	107·02
Melbourne	103·55
Brisbane	103·38
Wellington	101·09
Adelaide	100·84
Sydney	96·80
Perth	95·30

Increase of metropolitan population since census.

26. In the $6\frac{1}{4}$ years from the census of 1881 to the middle of 1887 it is estimated that the population of Greater Melbourne increased by 108,599, and in the $6\frac{3}{4}$ years to the end of 1887 the population of Greater Sydney by 116,498. The increase in the last year of the period was set down as 19,916 for Melbourne and 15,986 for Sydney.

Area of Australasian Colonies.

27. The area of the Australian continent is estimated to be somewhat under three million square miles; but that area added to the areas of Tasmania and New Zealand amounts to nearly

VICTORIA.

three million one hundred thousand square miles. The following are the areas of the different Colonies:—

Areas of Australasian Colonies.

	Square Miles.
Victoria - - - -	87,884
New South Wales - - -	309,175
Queensland - - - -	668,224
South Australia - - -	903,425*
Western Australia - - -	975,920
Total Australia -	2,944,628
Tasmania - - - -	26,375
New Zealand - - -	104,235
Total Australasia -	3,075,238

Area of Victoria. and other Colonies.

28. It will be noticed that Victoria is by far the smallest Colony on the Australian continent, and the smallest of the group except Tasmania. If the whole continent were to be divided into 100 equal parts, the area of Victoria would embrace three such parts, that of new South Wales 10, that of Queensland 23, that of South Australia 30, and that of Western Australia 34. Victoria is thus less than a third of the size of New South Wales, little more than an eighth of that of Queensland, about a tenth of that of South Australia, and less than an eleventh of that of Western Australia.

Immigration and emigration, 1887.

29. The arrivals and departures by sea recorded during 1887, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1887.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	63,219	26,928	90,147
Departures by sea - - -	47,536	20,585	68,121
Excess of arrivals - -	15,683	6,343	22,026

Gain by immigration, 1886 and 1887, compared.

30. Whilst the records of arrivals show smaller numbers for 1887 than for 1886 by 3,257, the records of departures show larger numbers by 19, the apparent net gain by excess of immigration over emigration was therefore less in the year under review than the previous one by 3,276.

Chinese immigration.

31. The Chinese immigrants included in the returns of 1887 numbered 2,049, viz., 2,034 males and 15 females, or 936 males

* Inclusive of the Northern Territory, estimated to contain 523,620 square miles.

and five females more than in the previous year. The number of Chinese emigrants during 1887 was 902, viz., 900 males and two females, as compared with 491 males and one female in 1886.

Chinese immigration, 1853 to 1887.

32. Chinese first began to arrive in Victoria in 1853; and, at the census of 1854, 2,000 were enumerated. In 1855 an Act was passed limiting the number of Chinese males a ship might bring to Victoria to one to every 10 tons, and making it compulsory that the sum of 10*l.* should be paid in respect to each of such immigrants. But notwithstanding the stringent provisions of this statute, which, however, were largely evaded by Chinese being landed in the adjacent Colonies and coming overland to Victoria, the Chinese had in 1857, when the next census was taken, increased to 25,424; and at the end of 1859 it was estimated that they numbered no less than 42,000. Soon after this an exodus of Chinese took place, chiefly to New South Wales, it being estimated that besides those who departed by sea as many as 11,000 went over the frontier to work at the Lambing Flat diggings in that Colony. In consequence of this the census of 1861 showed the number of Chinese remaining in Victoria to be only 24,732, or 638 less than in 1857. In 1865 the Act which imposed restrictions on Chinese immigration was repealed;* but notwithstanding this the number of Chinese in the Colony had decreased, by the time the census of 1871 was taken, to 17,935, or by 6,797 as compared with 1861; which number at the census of 1881 had been still further reduced to 12,128, or by 5,807 more. Since the census restrictions on Chinese immigration have again been imposed by the Chinese Act, 1881, 45 Vict., No. 723, which came into operation on the 1st April 1882, and is still in force. It limits the number of Chinese immigrants a ship may bring to Victoria to one to every 100 tons, and imposes on each of such immigrants a tax of 10*l.*, to be paid before he leaves the vessel. Since 1881 the increase has been but small, it being estimated that the number at the end of 1887 was 12,470, or only 342 more than at the census.† Until 1882 the official records of the departures of Chinese by sea were of little value, as no complete account was kept of those who went to the adjacent Colonies; but the arrivals by sea have been regularly recorded since 1860, and were as follows:—

Arrivals of Chinese by Sea, 1861 *to* 1887.

1861 - - - - -	154
1862 - - - - -	175
1863 - - - - -	80
1864 - - - - -	978
1865 - - - - -	1,085
1866 - - - - -	974
1867 - - - - -	317
1868 - - - - -	300

* By the Chinese immigrants statute, 1865, 28 Vict., No. 259 (9th May, 1865).

† *See* also paragraph 14.

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Arrivals of Chinese by Sea, 1861 *to* 1887—cont.

1869	1,121
1870	584
1871	704
1872	385
1873	269
1874	386
1875	521
1876	377
1877	449
1878	819
1879	875
1880	947
1881	1,348
1882	327
1883	433
1884	557
1885	670
1886	1,108
1887	2,049

Average number of Chinese immigrants.

33. The whole number of Chinese who arrived in the 27 years was 17,992, or an average of 666 per annum. It will be observed that only in the last two and three previous years of the period did the number arriving exceed 1,000.

Arrivals and departures of Chinese, 1882 to 1887.

34. If the arrivals of Chinese by sea be considered in connexion with the departures, it will be found that in the last six years, during which period an approximately correct account has been taken of the departures as well as the arrivals of Chinese by vessels, the Chinese population increased by 1,277. In the first three years of that period there was a loss by the departures of Chinese being in excess of the arrivals, which, however, was more than counterbalanced by the reverse process during the last three years, as will be seen by the following figures :—

Arrivals and Departures of Chinese by Sea, 1882 *to* 1887.

Year.	Arrivals of Chinese.	Departures of Chinese.	Excess of Arrivals (+). Excess of Departures (−).
1882	327	699	− 372
1883	433	568	− 135
1884	557	627	− 70
1885	670	579	+ 91
1886	1,108	492	+ 616
1887	2,049	902	+ 1,147
Total	5,144	3,867	+ 1,277

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Immigration and emigration in Australasian Colonies, 1887.

35. The following table shows the arrivals in and departures from each Australasian Colony by sea, and the excess of the former over the latter during the year 1887; the sexes of those who came and who went away being also distinguished:—

Immigration and Emigration Returns of the Australasian Colonies, 1887.

Colony.	Immigrants.			Emigrants.*			Excess of Immigrants over Emigrants.†		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - -	63,219	26,928	90,147	47,536	20,585	68,121	15,683	6,343	22,026
New South Wales	49,503	18,102	67,605	32,163	11,926	44,089	17,340	6,176	23,516
Queensland -	22,385	10,008	32,393	12,478	3,936	16,414	9,907	6,072	15,979
South Australia -	16,081	7,524	23,605	17,437	8,552	25,989	−1,356	−1,028	−2,384
Western Australia	3,312	1,138	4,450	1,886	514	2,400	1,426	624	2,050
Total - -	154,500	63,700	218,200	111,500	45,513	157,013	43,000	18,187	61,187
Tasmania - -	9,750	5,230	14,980	7,975	4,313	12,288	1,775	917	2,692
New Zealand -	9,224	4,465	13,689	8,434	4,278	12,712	790	187	977
Grand total -	173,474	73,395	246,869	127,909	54,104	182,013	45,565	19,291	64,856

NOTE.—The figures in this table refer to immigration and emigration by sea only.

Net gain by immigration to Australia and Australasia.

36. The figures in the table indicate the persons going from Colony to Colony as well as those arriving from, and departing for, distant countries. The figures in the total and grand total lines of the last three columns, however, ought to show the net gain to the population of Australia and Australasia by immigration. By the last of these columns it is seen that in 1887 the Australian continent gained 61,887, and the continent, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, gained 64,856 inhabitants. The corresponding figures for 1886 were 63,114 and 64,947; and those for 1885 were 60,442 and 65,595. Persons, however, leave all the Colonies by sea without their departure being noted; therefore the actual gain to the population from without is always less than the records indicate.

Naturalisation.

37. In Victoria a foreigner, even if naturalised, is not eligible to become a member of the Executive Council, but with this exception the highest offices of the State are open to naturalised persons of foreign as well as of British birth; and without becoming naturalised, alien friends resident in the Colony may acquire real and personal property, and may convey, devise, and bequeath it in the same manner as if they had been British

* The figures in these columns understate the truth. Many persons leave all the Colonies by sea without their departure being noted.

† Where the minus sign (−) appears the departures exceeded the arrivals by the number against which it is placed.

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subjects by birth. Alien women married to British subjects thereby become naturalised; but to become a member or elector of either House of Parliament it is necessary for a foreigner to take out letters of naturalisation, to procure which, in accordance with the provisions of the Aliens Statute, 1865 (28 Vict., No. 256), he must present a memorial to the Governor, stating his name, age, birthplace, residence, occupation, period of residence in the Colony, and his desire to settle therein, which memorial must be accompanied by a certificate from a magistrate to the effect that he is known to be the person signing, and is of good repute. Should letters be granted, the applicant, before they are issued, must take an oath of allegiance to the Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The following table shows the native countries of those who obtained letters of naturalisation during the year 1887 and the previous 15 years:—

Naturalisation, 1871 *to* 1887.

Native Countries.	Fifteen Years, 1871 to 1886.	Year 1887.
France	49	5
Belgium	11	—
Holland	13	—
Austria	35	6
Germany	660	14
Italy	38	—
Spain	5	—
Portugal	2	—
Russia	32	1
Other European Countries	347	29
United States	20	1
South and Central American States	1	—
China	2,953	16
Other Countries	13	3
Total	4,179	75

Chinese naturalised.

38. The tendency of the Chinese to become naturalised greatly increased soon after the passing of the Chinese Act, 1881 (45 Vict., No. 723), which provides that all Chinese who are not naturalised or natural-born subjects of Her Majesty shall, on entering the Colony, be subjected to an immigration tax,* and shall be disfranchised as regards both municipal and parliamentary elections. The result of the passing of this measure was that whereas no more than 91 Chinese took out letters of naturalisation during the 11 years ended with 1881, such letters were taken out by as many as

* See paragraph 32.

317 in 1882, 593 in 1883, 601 in 1884, and 1,178 in 1885; but after 1885 the Government, in view of the increasing number of Chinese applying for naturalisation papers, determined to issue no more "unless a sufficient reason was assigned," with the effect that only 173 such papers were issued in 1886, and no more than 16 in 1887.

Occupations of persons naturalised.

39. The Chinese naturalised in the last two years consisted for the most part of gardeners, miners, labourers, storekeepers, hawkers, carpenters, and cooks. Of the 53 persons of all other nationalities naturalised in those years, 2 were merchants, 4 storekeepers, 2 storemen, 1 a hawker, 4 miners, 6 farmers, 4 gardeners, 1 stock-dealer, 10 artisans and mechanics of various trades, 1 line repairer, 2 licensed victuallers, &c., 2 hotel servants, 2 tailors, 3 agents, clerks, &c., 4 sailors, 1 labourer, 1 fisherman, 2 doctors, and 1 architect.

Government finance account, 1886–

40. During the year ended 30th June 1887, not only did the receipts exceed the expenditure by about 172,600*l.*, but a credit balance of 431,500*l.*, having been brought forward from the previous year, the credit balance to be carried forward to 1887–8 was increased to 604,100*l.*, thus:—

Finance Account, 1886–7.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts - - -	6,733,825	10	1
Expenditure - - -	6,561,250	13	11
Receipts in excess of expenditure - - -	172,574	16	2
Credit balance from 1885–6 -	431,559	14	7
Credit balance carried forward to 1887–8 - - -	604,134	10	9

Surplus of revenue.

41. It is thus shown that during the financial year under review there was a surplus of revenue amounting to 172,575*l.*, which being added to a credit balance of 431,560*l.* brought forward from 1885–6, a total is arrived at of 604,135*l.* to be carried forward to 1887–8. This is, with one exception, the largest credit balance ever remaining in Victoria at the end of any financial year.

Net revenue and expenditure.

42. In the following table the receipts and expenditure, exclusive of advances recouped and to be recouped, are given for each of the 13 financial years ended with 1886–7; also the surplus or

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly in July 1888, by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1887–8 was 7,607,754*l.* and the expenditure was 7,345,650*l.*, the former thus exceeding the latter by 262,104*l.*, which amount being added to the balance at the beginning of the financial year gives a credit balance of 866,238*l.* to be carried forward. The estimated mean population of the same 12 months was about 1,037,600*l.*; so that the revenue per head was 7*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and the expenditure per head 7*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* It was understood that the figures in the statement referred to were not final.

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deficiency of revenue in each year, and the credit or debit balances carried forward from year to year :—

Net Public Revenue and Net Public Expenditure, 1874–5 *to* 1886–7.

Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−).	Balances carried forward. Credit (+). Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1874–75 -	4,169,700	4,296,649	−126,949	+120,155
1875–76 -	4,325,156	4,394,066	− 68,910	+ 51,245
1876–77 -	4,513,738	4,336,139	+177,599	+228,844
1877–78 -	4,485,412	4,536,062	− 50,650	+178,194
1878–79 -	4,520,277	4,809,724	−289,447	−111,253
1879–80 -	4,600,627	4,803,790	−203,163	−314,416
1880–81 -	5,115,041	5,100,225	+ 14,816	−299,600
1881–82 -	5,589,972	5,145,764	+444,208	+144,608
1882–83 -	5,602,066	5,651,885	− 49,819	+ 94,789
1883–84 -	5,934,578	5,665,293	+269,285	+364,074
1884–85 -	6,290,361	6,125,741	+164,620	+528,694
1885–86 -	6,416,406	6,513,540	− 97,134	+431,560
1886–87 -	6,733,826	6,561,251	+172,575	+604,135

Revenue, 1885–6 and 1886–7, compared.

43. The total revenue raised in 1886–7 was 252,800*l.* in excess of that in the previous year; but by making allowances for recoups, also for receipts from sources not common to both years, the excess is reduced to 218,320*l.*, thus :—

Comparative Revenues, 1885–6 *and* 1886–7.

	1885–86.	1886–87.
	£	£
Total revenue - - - -	6,481,021	6,733,826
Deduct recoups, &c. - - - -	64,615	—
Revenue proper - - - -	6,416,406	6,733,826
Deduct amounts from sources not common to both years - - - -	—	99,100
Comparative amounts - - -	6,416,406	6,634,726

44. The revenue of 1886–7 was the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1885–6, which was the year

in which the largest revenue had previously been realised, by over 250,000*l.*, as already stated, and exceeded the revenue of 1884–5, which was the year in which the next highest revenue had been raised, by nearly 443,500*l.* In the 11 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from 4,500,000*l.* to 6,700,000*l.*, or by 49 per cent.

Revenue, 1886–7, and previous years.

45. The expenditure of 1886–7 was also above that of any previous year, it being larger than in 1885–6, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by nearly 48,000*l.* Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–3 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–4 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions, and from 1884–5 to 1886–7 it ranged from six to over six and a half millions sterling.

Expenditure, 1886–7, and former years.

46. The revenue per head in 1886–7 (6*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*) was larger by 9*d.*, but the expenditure per head (6*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*) was smaller by 3*s.* 4*d.* than in the previous year. The former was larger than in any year since 1857, and the latter, although smaller than in 1885–6, was larger than in any other year since 1859. In proportion to population both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872–3, but ever since the latter a gradual increase has taken place, which, with slight fluctuations, has been maintained up to the present time.

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1886–7 and former years.

47. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz.:—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Posts and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1886–7, 2,740,000*l.*, or 40½ per cent., was derived from taxation; 587,000*l.*, or 8¾ per cent., from Crown lands; 3,087,000*l.*, or 46 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government, viz.:—Public Works and Posts and Telegraphs, to which the State Railways contributed as much as 2,453,000*l.*, or 36½ per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to 320,000*l.*, or about 4¾ per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 587,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 8¾ per cent. of the total revenue, was derived from the sale of public land, which being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is now properly treated as capital, for, on reference to the statement of expenditure, it will be seen that a sum of 67,000*l.* was paid towards the construction of railways as directed by a recent Act of Parliament, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the Railway Construction Account. In 1886–7, however, the amount so paid represented less than one-seventh of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. The following is a statement of the amounts received under various heads in each of

Heads of revenue, 1885–6 and 1886–7.

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those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head :—

Heads of Revenue, 1885–6 *and* 1886–7.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1885-6.	1886-7.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,004,460	2,132,361	127,901	—
Excise	137,709	120,701	—	17,008
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	32,710	34,920	2,210	—
Licences (business)	33,922	18,898	—	15,024
Duties on estates of deceased persons	104,907	114,909	10,002	—
Duties on bank notes	28,769	28,104	—	665
Stamp duty	165,313	165,000	—	313
Land tax	126,770	124,742	—	2,028
Total	2,634,560	2,739,635	105,075	—
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	465,766	504,734	38,968	—
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	97,658	81,562	—	16,096
Penalties under Land Acts	184	795	611	—
Total	563,608	587,091	23,483	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	2,306,791	2,453,345	146,554	—
Water supply	190,815	215,401	24,586	—
Other public works	3,364	5,062	1,698	—
Total	2,500,970	2,673,808	172,838	—
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts, &c.	300,534	303,762	3,228	—
Telegraph receipts, &c.	93,650	109,773	16,123	—
Total	394,184	413,535	19,351	—
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges	11,705	11,058	—	647
„ subsidy returned	4,613	1,986	—	2,627
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps)	128,523	131,095	2,572	—
Interest on public account	84,973	93,216	8,243	—
Rents (other than Crown lands)	14,905	5,049	—	9,856
Reimbursements in aid	49,187	54,033	4,846	—
Miscellaneous receipts	29,178	23,320	—	5,858
Total	323,084	319,757	—	3,327
Total revenue proper	6,416,406	6,733,826	317,420	—
Recoups or assets realised	64,615	—	—	64,615
Grand Total	6,481,021	6,733,826	252,805	—

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Heads of expenditure, 1885–6 and 1886–7.

48. Of the total expenditure of Victoria in 1886–7, 1,140,000*l.* or 17½ per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attack; 676,000*l.*, or 10⅓ per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 269,000*l.*, or over 4 per cent., was expended on public charities, or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 112,000*l.*, or 1¾ per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, being 31,000*l.* more than the gross annual rental therefrom during the financial year; as much as 3,148,000*l.*, or 48 per cent., was absorbed in connexion with working of the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 1,403,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, 586,000*l.* on posts and telegraphs, and 1,159,000*l.** in interest upon loans raised for their construction; 112,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the constructions of other public works; 79,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue from Customs duties and Excise; 40,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and 175,000*l.*, or 2⅔ per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 71,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary annual expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 739,000*l.*, or 11 per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on productive and unproductive public works of a permanent character, viz., 67,000*l.* on railways and 672,000*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies. These amounts appear as a set off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 235,000*l.* The following is a classification of the expenditure under 9 principal and 27 subsidiary heads, during the years 1885–6 and 1886–7, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1885–6 *and* 1886–7.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1885-6.	1886-7.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list†	40,962	36,416	—	4,546
Legislature	64,136	57,202	—	6,934
Civil establishment‡	122,593	129,001	6,408	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	73,214	85,160	11,946	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	44,078	40,237	—	3,841
Total	344,983	348,016	3,033	—

* The total amount of interest and expenses of the public debt was 1,271,000*l.*, but the amount here given is that payable for railway and waterworks only.

† Including Governor's salary, and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent-General, expenses of Executive Council, and Public Service Board.

‡ Including cost of the following departments:—Chief Secretary, Shorthand Writer, Agent-General's Office, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Treasury Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

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Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended. 1885-6.	Amounts Expended. 1886-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.	£	£	£	£
Judicial and legal - - - -	191,290	193,905	2,615	—
Police - - - - -	224,237	233,173	8,936	—
Gaols and penal establishments - -	60,644	59,894	—	750
Defences—Naval and Military* - -	319,938	304,764	—	15,174
Total - - - -	796,109	791,736	—	4,373
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.				
Public instruction, science, &c.† - -	671,442	676,569	5,127	—
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.‡ -	273,705	268,864	—	4,841
Total - . - - -	945,147	945,433	286	—
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey - -	107,556	111,969	4,413	—
Agriculture, &c. - - - -	84,781	71,552	—	13,229
Mining - - - - -	71,462	103,654	32,192	—
Total - - - -	263,799	287,175	23,376	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses - -	1,323,873	1,363,587	39,714	—
„ Construction account - -	88,667	67,529	—	21,138
Water supply - - - -	35,511	39,756	4,245	—
Other public works - - -	680,825	671,973	—	8,852
Total - - - -	2,128,876	2,142,845	13,969	—
Post and telegraphs - - -	564,620	585,990	21,370	—
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways - -	1,017,374	985,308	—	32,066
„ „ Water supply -	157,428	173,751	16,323	—
„ „ Other works -	107,208	111,750	4,542	—
Total - - - -	1,282,010	1,270,809	—	11,201
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.				
Customs - - - - -	70,925	78,579	7,654	—
Harbours and lights - - -	38,988	39,819	831	—
Total - - - -	109,913	118,398	8,485	—

* For expenditure on Defences, *see also* part "Defences," *post*.

† Including expenditure under the following heads:—Education; Government Statist; Observatory; Government Botanist; Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery; Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, Free Libraries, &c.; and Grants to Schools of Mines and Design.

‡ Including expenditure under the following heads:—Chief Medical Officer; Central Board of Health: Hospitals for Insane; Industrial and Reformatory Schools; and Grants to Charitable Institutions.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Expended. 1885-6.	Amounts Expended. 1886-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
OTHER EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£	£
Mint subsidy	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines	10,514	10,508	—	6
Miscellaneous services	47,569	40,341	—	7,228
Total	78,083	70,849	—	7,234
Grand Total	6,513,540	6,561,251	47,711	—

49. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1881–2 and during each subsequent year. Expenditure of loans, &c.

This is intended to supplement the last table by exhibiting those items which, having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1887.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.* Prior to 1881–82.	1881-2.	1882-3.	1883-4.	1884-5.	1885-6.	1886-7.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	15,582,400	794,468	2,187,183	1,191,132	848,358	1,401,511	1,521,817	23,526,869
Water supply	3,218,655	149,903	367,416	304,585	172,465	235,485	373,994	†4,822,503
Law courts and Parliament Houses	277,949	67,952	44,860	45,505	568	12,153	32,770	481,757
Public offices	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings	754,233	50,693	53,651	36,923	69,995	45,438	49,284	1,063,217
Yarra bridge	—	1,500	300	8,382	3,663	16,271	62,239	92,355
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	—	—	400	13,706	46,077	20,976	‡47,856	129,015
Total	20,435,635	1,064,516	2,656,810	1,600,233	1,141,126	1,731,834	2,087,960	30,718,114

50. The amounts of which revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised Taxation.

* These are the actual payments during the various years shown, whether made direct from the loans, &c., or indirectly by means of advances from the general revenue, to be subsequently recouped.

† Of which 1,952,780*l.* was for Melbourne Water Supply, and 2,869,723*l.* for Country Waterworks, &c.

‡ Including an expenditure in 1886–7 of 15,431*l.* on works for opening the entrance to the Gippsland Lakes, making a total of 32,244*l.* up to the end of that year.

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otherwise. In Victoria, the former class consists of Customs and Excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licences, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices, from the mint, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of prisoners, &c.

The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle :—

Taxation, 1886-7.

	£
Revenue raised by taxation - -	2,739,635
„ „ otherwise - -	3,994,191
Total -	6,733,826

Taxation by Customs in Australasian Colonies.

51. In all the Australasian Colonies the principal part of the taxation is raised through the Customs. In the following table the amount so raised in each of those Colonies is given for a recent year, together with the proportion of such revenue to the total taxation and the total imports :—

Taxation by Customs in Australasian Colonies, 1886.

Colony.	Revenue from Customs Duties.		
	Amount.	Proportion to—	
		Total Taxation.	Total Value of Imports.
	£	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Victoria - - - -	2,094,356	76·45	11·15
New South Wales - - -	2,068,571	79·20	9·86
Queensland - - - -	965,754	80·70	15·82
South Australia - - -	436,114	74·53	8·99
Western Australia - - -	164,048	88·68	21·64
Tasmania - - - -	276,265	74·36	15·73
New Zealand - - - -	1,315,801	67·06	19·47

Public Debt.

52. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1887 to 33,119,164*l.*, consisting of moneys:—

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,705,164
„ Great Britain - -	31,414,000
Total - -	33,119,164

Interest on loans for different works.

53. The annual interest payable on the public debt as it existed at the end of the financial year 1886–7 was equivalent to an average rate of about 4*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* per cent., the rates on the amounts borrowed for the different works in most cases varying from 4 to 4½ per cent. No money has been borrowed at 6 per cent. since 1886; and the 5, 4½, and 4 per cent. loans floated since, together with the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures for the 6 per cents. which had become due, have gradually brought down the rate of interest, so that at the end of 1886–7 it averaged less than 4¼ per cent. as just stated. The following are the particulars of the amounts borrowed for the different works, and the amount and average rate of interest payable thereon annually:—

Interest on Loans for different Works.

Purpose for which Raised.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June 1887.	Interest payable Annually.	
		Amount.	Average Nominal Rate per cent.
	£	£	
Railways - - - -	25,407,926*	1,073,131	4·22
Water supply { Melbourne - -	1,471,184	60,110	4·09
Water supply { Country - -	3,533,528	153,458	4·34
Law Courts and Parliament Houses -	600,713	25,265	4·21
Public offices - - - -	166,195	6,789	4·09
Defences - - - - -	100,000	6,000	6·00
State schools - - - -	1,105,557	45,222	4·09
Yarra Bridge - - - -	108,043	4,622	4·28
Harbours, &c. - - - -	275,554	11,022	4·00
Graving dock - - - -	350,464	15,307	4·37
Total - -	33,119,164	1,400,926	4·23

Interest payable and paid.

54. It appears that the total sum payable annually as interest is close on 1,401,000*l.*; but as interest on debentures held by the Government is not paid, and as a portion of the debt did not bear interest during the whole of the year, the amount actually paid in 1886–7 was only 1,250,252*l.*, viz., 1,176,976*l.* in London and 73,276*l.* in

* This is inclusive of 183,900*l.*, amount outstanding on the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company's debentures, the interest on which is 9,349*l.* annually; also 112,500*l.* for tramways in country districts.

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Expenses of paying interest on debt.

Melbourne. The payment of interest in Melbourne is not attended with any expense, but in connexion with the payment of interest in London expenses are incurred, consisting chiefly of premiums on the remittance of money and commission to the banks. These charges amounted in 1886–7 to 20,557*l.*, which is equivalent to a proportion of $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on the total amount paid in London, viz., 1,176,976*l.* as just stated; as compared with 20,746*l.*, or rather more than $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., in 1885–6; and with only 14,420*l.*, or $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., in 1884–5. The increase in the last two years was due to increased premiums on remittances in consequence of the rate of exchange being exceptionally high during those two years; also to the increase of stock (by conversion and new issues) on the London Registers, the management of which is much more costly than that of debentures; for whereas the commission for the payment of debenture coupons is only half per cent. on the amount of interest payable, the charge for the inscription and management of stock, and payment of interest thereon, is equivalent to between $1\frac{1}{8}$ and $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

Marriages, 1887.

55. The marriages returned to the Registrar General for 1887 numbered 7,768, as against 7,737 for the previous year. The excess in favour of 1887 was thus 31.

Marriages 1887 and former years.

56. More marriages were returned for 1887 than for any previous year. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which has been more than sustained since. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; and in 1884, for the first time, they exceeded 7,000.

Marriage rates in Australasian Colonies.

57. The following table gives a statement of the number of marriages to every 1,000 of the population of the various Australasian Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1887, except Western Australia, for which Colony it is given for the last 16 of those years:—

Marriage Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 *to* 1887.

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New-Zealand
1865 - -	7·36	8·94	13·27	9·45	—	6·27	10·47
1866 - -	6·76	8·26	11·61	8·12	—	5·93	10·32
1867 - -	6·97	7·84	9·54	8·20	—	6·10	9·69
1868 - -	7·08	8·23	8·33	7·37	—	6·57	9·35
1869 - -	6·89	8·04	8·31	6·78	—	6·44	8·32
1870 - -	6·63	7·85	7·80	6·90	—	6·62	7·62
1871 - -	6·37	7·78	8·06	6·77	—	5·90	7·15
1872 - -	6·36	7·46	8·70	7·20	5·56	6·17	6·85
1873 - -	6·50	8·05	9·66	8·00	6·25	6·36	7·91
1874 - -	6·33	7·70	8·62	8·00	6·96	6·83	8·87
1875 - -	6·33	7·88	8·63	8·01	7·26	6·63	8·94
1876 - -	6·21	7·66	7·57	8·49	7·07	7·13	8·25

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1877 - -	6·31	7·94	7·57	8·66	6·38	7·79	7·63
1878 - -	6·20	8·08	6·98	9·47	6·50	7·96	8·03
1879 - -	5·98	7·80	7·49	8·81	7·57	7·23	7·60
1880 - -	6·22	7·68	6·97	8·69	7·42	7·38	6·71
1881 - -	6·79	8·27	7·71	8·33	6·60	7·30	6·65
1882 - -	7·09	8·74	8·56	8·73	7·07	8·03	7·07
1883 - -	7·43	8·88	8·93	8·49	6·95	9·01	6·82
1884 - -	7·73	8·49	8·91	8·28	7·11	7·81	6·88
1885 - -	7·72	8·18	9·20	7·82	7·51	7·97	6·73
1886 - -	7·84	7·97	8·38	6·31	7·99	7·27	5·99
1887 - -	7·62	7·42	8·21	6·32	7·70	6·71	5·99
Means -	6·81	8·05	8·65	7·97	6·99	7·02	7·82

Births, 1887.

58. The births registered in Victoria during 1887 numbered 33,043, as against 30,824 in 1886. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 2,219.

Births in 1887, and former years.

59. During the 20 years ended with 1883 the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the three subsequent years, the number of births in 1887 being by far the highest ever recorded.

Birth rates in Australasian Colonies.

60. Returns of the births in all the Australasian Colonies are available to the end of 1887, and from these and the mean populations of the respective Colonies during each year the birth rates have been calculated in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne. The following table gives the birth rates of the different Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1887, or as many years between those periods as the figures are available for :—

Birth Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 to 1887.

Year.	Number of Births per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland-	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	42·40	43·21	43·65	43·90	—	32·56	41·12
1866 -	39·76	40·45	44·86	42·38	—	29·15	42·89
1867 -	39·75	41·94	45·66	41·87	—	30·34	42·18
1868 -	41·08	40·72	43·03	41·51	—	30·03	42·14
1869 -	37·89	40·74	42·83	39·03	—	28·27	41·90
1870 -	38·07	40·09	43·51	38·48	—	30·18	42·32
1871 -	37·15	39·63	43·25	38·34	—	30·16	40·64
1872 -	36·33	38·46	40·70	37·60	32·42	29·44	39·50
1873 -	36·71	39·38	40·82	36·42	31·43	29·43	39·00
1874 -	34·46	39·30	41·11	38·22	33·71	29·72	40·27
1875 -	33·94	38·53	38·90	35·70	28·72	29·88	40·23
1876 -	33·61	38·56	37·48	37·71	33·98	30·11	41·73

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Year.	Number of Births per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1877 -	32·17	37·92	36·75	37·36	33·07	30·21	41·28
1878 -	32·36	38·50	35·77	38·23	31·11	32·27	42·14
1879 -	32·18	38·99	36·74	38·96	34·38	32·05	40·32
1880 -	30·75	38·80	36·92	38·94	32·35	32·91	40·78
1881 -	31·24	38·13	37·19	38·66	33·67	33·40	37·95
1882 -	30·05	37·37	35·85	37·40	35·84	33·50	37·32
1883 -	30·23	37·49	36·92	37·37	33·87	34·25	36·28
1884 -	30·89	38·54	36·23	38·38	33·84	35·66	36·15
1885 -	31·37	37·64	37·80	38·47	35·22	35·08	34·78
1886 -	31·23	37·03	37·84	35·70	39·43	34·15	33·15
1887 -	32·40	36·42	38·09	34·65	37·94	33·87	32·09
Means -	34·61	39·04	39·65	38·50	33·81	31·59	39·40

Deaths, 1887.

61. The deaths registered in 1887 numbered 16,005, as against 14,952 in 1886. The increase in the year under notice was thus 1,053.

Deaths, 1887, and former years.

62. In 1887 for the first time the deaths exceeded 16,000, in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, and only in one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Excess of births over deaths in Australasian Colonies.

63. Of the Australasian Colonies, New Zealand is the one in which the births have always exceeded the deaths by the highest proportion. This is due to the high birth rate and low death rate prevailing in that Colony, the latter being no doubt promoted by the salubrity of the climate of New Zealand, but still more so by the circumstance of the population being spread over the country or dispersed throughout a number of small towns, instead of being to a great extent crowded into a few large cities, as is too much the case in the other Colonies. The position of Victoria in regard to the proportionate increase of births over deaths is above that of Queensland or Tasmania, but below that of the other Colonies. The following table shows the per-centage of excess of births over deaths in each of the Australasian Colonies during the respective years 1877 to 1886, both inclusive. The Colonies are arranged

in order, that with the highest mean per-centage being placed first, and that with the lowest last:—

Excess of Births over Deaths in Australasian Colonies, 1877 *to* 1886.

Colony.	Excess per cent. of Births over Deaths.										
	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	Mean of Ten Years.
New Zealand - - -	260	283	224	256	241	233	217	246	224	215	240
South Australia - - -	167	148	177	162	167	147	152	147	202	164	163
New South Wales - -	142	135	164	151	151	132	155	139	129	149	145
Western Australia - -	111	121	138	144	144	153	89	55	100	82	114
Victoria - - - -	104	109	121	124	121	96	112	114	109	106	112
Queensland - - -	113	75	145	172	148	99	96	56	87	126	112
Tasmania - - - -	58	106	111	104	126	112	101	130	128	134	111

Death rates in Australasian Colonies.

64 The proportion which the deaths that occurred in each Australasian Colony bore to the total population of that Colony during each of the 23 years from 1865 to 1887 will be found in the following table:—

Death Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 *to* 1887.

Year.	Number of Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	16·97	16·49	21·42	14·30	—	13·40	15·13
1866 -	19·37	17·57	25·67	17·20	—	13·79	12·86
1867 -	18·06	19·76	17·80	17·48	—	14·48	12·78
1868 -	15·00	15·92	17·36	14·41	—	14·70	11·94
1869 -	15·47	14·17	16·20	12·37	—	13·20	11·73
1870 -	14·61	13·38	14·59	13·94	—	13·88	11·13
1871 -	13·46	12·61	14·83	12·87	—	13·38	10·13
1872 -	14·38	14·18	14·97	15·33	14·02	13·79	11·68
1873 -	15·02	13·98	16·06	13·48	16·24	14·52	12·67
1874 -	15·72	15·33	17·98	17·05	18·74	16·21	13·05
1875 -	19·42	18·42	23·80	19·45	17·88	20·00	15·92
1876 -	17·02	18·53	18·82	16·28	14·18	16·54	12·66
1877 -	15·80	15·69	17·29	13·99	15·70	19·17	11·47
1878 -	15·46	16·36	20·41	15·44	14·07	15·66	11·01
1879 -	14·53	14·76	14·97	14·09	14·46	15·18	12·46
1880 -	13·70	15·47	13·59	14·85	13·24	16·12	11·46
1881 -	14·16	15·17	15·02	14·49	13·80	14·77	11·13
1882 -	15·32	16·12	17·99	15·15	14·16	15·79	11·19
1883 -	14·28	14·68	18·82	14·83	17·93	17·06	11·45
1884 -	14·46	16·14	22·97	15·52	21·87	15·50	10·39
1885 -	14·98	16·42	20·19	12·73	17·61	15·40	10·74
1886 -	15·15	14·89	16·77	13·52	21·67	14·58	10·54
1887 -	15·70	13·15	14·56	12·62	17·11	15·45	10·29
Means -	15·57	15·62	17·92	14·84	16·42	15·33	11·90

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Imports, exports, and trade.

65. In 1887 the total declared value of the imports was 19,022,151*l.*, and that of the exports 11,351,145*l.*; the excess of imports over exports was therefore 7,671,006*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 30,373,296*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

66. The value of imports was higher in 1887 than in 1886 by 491,576*l.*, or by not quite 3 per cent.; but notwithstanding the serious falling off in the previous year as compared with 1885, amounting to $3\frac{3}{4}$ millions sterling, or 24 per cent., the value of exports further decreased by 444,176*l.*, or by nearly 4 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus greater than in the previous year by only 47,400*l.*

Imports and exports in latest and former years.

67. The imports in 1887, as indicated by their values, were higher than in any other year of the Colony's history except 1884; the exports, however, according to the same standard, were lower than in any year since 1854.

Imports and exports per head.

68. In 1887 the value of imports per head, 18*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, was lower than in any of the last 15 years, except 1879 and 1880, and was also considerably lower than in most previous years; the value of exports per head in 1887, 11*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, was absolutely lower than in any other year since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales.

Imports and exports, the produce of various countries.

69. The value of the imports into Victoria of articles entered as being the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, of other British dominions, and of foreign States, and the value of the exports from Victoria of articles entered as the produce or manufacture of the same countries and of the Colony itself, also the per-centage of such values to the total values of imports and exports in 1887, will be found in the following table :—

Imports and Exports, the Produce of different Countries, 1887.

Articles the Produce or Manufacture of—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
Victoria - - -	—	—	8,502,979	74·91
The United Kingdom -	7,928,736	41·68	929,191	8·19
Other British possessions -	7,996,498	42·04	1,131,992	9·97
Foreign States - -	3,096,917	16·28	786,983	6·93
Total - -	19,022,151	100·00	11,351,145	100·00

Exports of Victorian products, 1881 to 1887.

70. The following are the values of goods entered as the produce or manufacture of Victoria during each of the years forming

the septennial period ended with 1887, the names of all the most important articles being given :—

Exports of Articles entered as the Produce or Manufacture of Victoria, 1881 *to* 1887.*

Articles.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Stationery	19,441	21,891	23,387	22,113	17,949	14,395	13,231
Agricultural implements	14,198	15,592	14,119	10,347	11,017	11,732	15,613
Machinery	82,166	123,180	138,407	98,468	73,227	48,034	90,403
Saddlery and harness	21,383	22,883	22,417	14,260	13,105	9,866	7,147
Furniture and upholstery	31,282	37,651	46,832	43,734	39,143	24,109	20,286
Manure	13,206	16,111	27,869	21,987	19,780	24,579	25,431
Drugs and chemicals	6,212	7,725	15,400	12,398	17,144	13,164	10,647
Woollens and woollen piece goods	6,947	15,692	12,546	10,633	4,189	2,751	1,820
Apparel and slops	226,203	258,393	245,998	257,269	242,617	155,358	117,858
Boots and shoes	45,856	47,250	39,958	36,916	25,482	20,926	23,137
Cordage	16,879	26,721	27,613	29,312	20,695	9,195	5,398
Butter and cheese	100,987	113,852	117,835	145,484	103,365	90,221	43,123
Hams, bacon, and lard	16,155	12,195	15,422	17,232	13,061	10,343	8,817
Beef and pork, salted	14,073	24,509	26,901	33,072	18,905	9,951	4,077
Preserved meats	102,306	49,674	76,015	116,903	99,861	88,187	41,561
Confectionery	17,749	20,621	15,712	13,062	11,290	6,703	3,798
Biscuit	30,237	32,031	27,663	40,370	45,015	37,689	26,870
Flour	206,932	286,627	256,674	277,556	303,305	313,709	408,434
Grain and pulse—							
Wheat	668,234	631,473	353,309	1,426,905	407,668	165,391	410,524
Other†			17,275	23,316	8,307	10,387	13,317
Fruit	6,804	12,724	18,573	38,021	23,662	21,967	10,105
Jams and preserves	6,778	7,328	23,276	28,515	15,932	14,678	6,563
Oatmeal	12,368	19,673	22,512	28,540	29,550	25,222	17,978
Onions	20,364	35,398	31,599	38,710	31,868	34,696	33,482
Potatoes	57,091	110,544	110,885	148,929	103,644	120,532	37,861
Sugar, refined, and molasses	208,782	214,777	216,501	106,483	52,048	32,462	41,130
Vegetables	4,258	4,565	30,706	99,031	17,480	4,436	12,423
Wine	5,388	11,894	11,493	13,450	15,362	27,094	29,345
Bones	1,630	2,319	1,287	1,951	1,211	500	541
Bone dust	12,144	12,503	8,900	11,380	14,458	9,674	5,270

* Including all articles partly or wholly made up of imported materials.
† Not including malt.

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Articles.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Candles - - -	1,331	480	341	3,655	7,163	5,561	1,629
Glue pieces - -	1,112	1,819	667	1,055	1,400	1,783	1,780
Hides - - -	6,239	6,838	4,118	8,696	10,284	9,581	15,250
Horns and hoofs -	1,118	2,586	1,673	1,174	678	1,005	633
Leather - - -	297,427	329,146	359,870	338,029	342,252	254,597	207,606
Skins—sheep, &c. -	104,352	129,267	117,538	139,942	92,149	98,763	104,543
Soap - - -	11,596	15,229	12,709	15,559	18,189	13,354	10,485
Stearine - - -	48,626	32,213	13,486	6,247	—	5	96
Tallow - - -	247,372	186,484	232,400	256,686	155,918	121,900	85,640
Wool* - - -	4,070,589	4,792,084	5,213,198	5,707,668	4,428,231	4,306,352	4,508,105
Bark and timber -	35,917	43,471	50,239	33,472	32,782	37,481	23,470
Bran and pollard -	9,426	4,182	11,487	16,102	9,598	23,010	4,323
Hay and chaff - -	81,196	146,199	125,919	194,393	84,825	174,139	63,660
Seeds - - -	14,097	13,894	2,083	13,722	9,699	6,227	4,412
Oil—neatsfoot, and extallow - - -	17,575	18,568	8,209	9,016	7,634	7,478	3,625
Gold—bullion - -	1,588,738	1,381,088	1,569,819	760,875	353,362	336,874	243,425
„ specie - -	3,090,999	2,208,221	2,251,278	1,249,420	3,956,173	1,610,829	1,011,121
Minerals, metals, &c., exclusive of gold -	62,847	45,280	75,846	31,858	25,716	32,393	14,733
Horned cattle - -	83,110	131,035	193,188	235,019	101,935	57,604	71,833
Horses - - -	185,295	299,874	268,911	171,732	170,926	133,691	148,018
Sheep - - -	184,126	163,458	327,598	307,609	426,149	101,232	191,246
Plants - - -	6,170	7,261	8,736	7,561	7,343	5,664	5,920
Hardware and manufactures of metals -	31,292	69,415	28,057	24,911	19,405	20,834	16,440
Oilmen's stores - -	11,497	12,795	13,133	15,421	14,400	11,898	13,622
All other articles -	312,467	334,105	410,707	439,315	375,694	324,481	265,174
Total - -	12,480,567	12,570,788	13,292,294	13,155,484	12,452,245	9,054,687	8,502,979

NOTE.—The border traffic is included in all the years.

Trade with various countries, 1887.

71. In 1887, according to value, over two-fifths of the Victorian imports were from, and nearly half of the exports were to, the United Kingdom. About 38 per cent. of the former, and 40 per cent. of the latter, were conveyed between Victoria and the neighbouring Colonies, chiefly New South Wales. In regard to foreign countries, the imports therefrom amounted to 12⅓ per cent. of the total imports and the exports thereto to over 7 per cent. of the total exports. The value of the imports from and the exports to the principal British and foreign countries, and

* It is believed a portion of this wool was produced outside Victoria.

the per-centage of such values to the total imports and exports, are given in the following table:—

Victorian Imports from and Exports to different Countries, 1887.

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
BRITISH COUNTRIES.	£		£	
The United Kingdom	8,290,046	43·58	5,476,229	48·24
Australasia—				
New South Wales	5,256,572	27·63	2,447,279	21·56
Queensland	477,901	2·51	529,286	4·66
South Australia	520,190	2·73	527,703	4·65
Western Australia	18,789	·10	155,984	1·37
Tasmania	347,510	1·83	543,523	4·79
New Zealand	706,505	3·71	292,729	2·58
Fiji	62,209	·33	22,872	·20
Mauritius	246,308	1·30	28,312	·25
Hong Kong	234,864	1·23	32,458	·29
India	371,914	1·96	421,552	3·71
Ceylon	41,352	·22	50,696	·45
Straits Settlements	59,104	·31	5,832	·05
Canada	24,236	·13	—	—
Other British possessions	14,821	·08	10,097	·09
Total	16,672,321	87·65	10,544,552	92·89
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.				
Belgium	73,299	·38	228,268	2·01
France	182,187	·96	155,940	1·37
Germany	298,269	1·57	107,920	·95
Sweden and Norway	328,789	1·73	20	—
Java	179,777	·94	2,071	·02
Philippine Islands	5,380	·03	79,051	·70
China	585,259	3·08	45	—
United States	671,231	3·53	223,443	1·97
Others	25,639	·13	9,835	·09
Total	2,349,830	12·35	806,593	7·11
Grand Total	19,022,151	100·00	11,351,145	100·00

Trade with neighbouring Colonies, 1877 to 1887.

72. The value of imports to Victoria from the neighbouring Colonies was higher in 1887 than in any of the previous 10 years by nearly one million sterling. The value of the exports from Victoria to the neighbouring Colonies, which had been steadily increasing up to 1884, showed a slight falling off in 1883, and a further but very considerable falling off in 1886, and although there was a slight recovery in 1887 the value in that year was

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lower than in any other year since 1879, except 1876, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Trade between Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies, 1877 to 1887.

Year.	Imports from the Neighbouring Colonies.	Exports to the Neighbouring Colonies.	Excess in favour of	
			Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1877 - -	5,214,364	4,229,570	984,794	—
1878 - -	5,609,455	4,837,421	772,034	—
1879 - -	6,130,990	4,184,114	1,946,876	—
1880 - -	6,299,597	4,567,982	1,731,615	—
1881 - -	5,949,730	4,736,442	1,213,288	—
1882 - -	5,914,327	5,225,839	688,488	—
1883 - -	5,658,854	5,744,780	—	85,926
1884 - -	6,475,915	5,826,826	649,089	—
1885 - -	5,652,169	5,633,247	18,922	—
1886 - -	6,254,393	4,108,757	2,145,636	—
1887 - -	7,327,467	4,496,504	2,830,963	—

Imports from other Colonies in excess of exports thereto.

73. It will be observed that Victoria imported from the other Colonies more than she exported thereto in all the years named except 1883, and that the excess of imports in 1887 was far larger than in any other year shown. The figures in the last two columns show the net excess in favour of imports during the 11 years to have amounted to 12,895,779*l.*, or an average of about 1,172,300*l.* per annum.

Imports of principal articles at three periods.

74. The values of 63 of the principal articles imported in 1887 and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia are placed side by side in the following table:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1877, 1882, and 1887.

Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1877.	1882.	1887.
	£	£	£
Books - - - - -	170,918	199,784	204,055
Stationery - - - -	61,461	92,653	85,706
Musical instruments - -	101,073	115,292	87,403
Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials.	85,225	84,776	84,930
Cutlery - - - -	43,557	26,501	20,739
Machinery - - - -	100,467	151,401	242,343
Sewing machines - - -	68,917	119,161	36,651
Tools and utensils - - -	41,495	56,150	30,564
Building materials - - -	78,944	90,433	127,486
Furniture and upholstery - -	42,028	76,990	57,053
Drugs and chemicals - - -	54,191	84,365	82,155
Matches and vestas - - -	45,544	43,724	55,292
Opium - - - - -	79,149	77,089	37,280
Paints and colours - - -	60,486	79,636	71,436
Carpeting and druggeting - -	57,351	88,463	79,823

Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1877.	1882.	1885.
	£	£	£
Woollens and woollen piece goods -	917,793	924,905	724,436
Silks - - - - -	258,969	258,709	288,173
Cottons - - -	766,222	1,048,306	825,883
Linen piece goods - - -	37,493	31,817	49,374
Haberdashery - - - -	239,156	337,812	358,748
Apparel and slops - - -	346,682	313,699	323,848
Boots and shoes - - -	217,503	121,818	95,307
Gloves - - - - -	67,332	90,145	98,762
Hats, caps, and bonnets - -	138,222	129,164	113,932
Hosiery - - - -	164,779	134,955	130,194
Millinery - - - -	12,197	— *	— *
Bags and sacks (including woolpacks) -	92,735	318,617	260,906
Butter and cheese - - -	5,793	26,053	7,441
Fish - - - - -	158,924	131,672	165,361
Meats, fresh, preserved, and salted -	12,700	12,599	23,954
Fruit (including currants and raisins) -	184,043	204,150	280,335
Flour and biscuit - - -	3,509	16,176	13,638
Grain, wheat - - - -	20,861	18,805	17,716
„ oats - - - -	129,876	58,171	141,764
„ other (including malt and rice) -	354,501	175,370	153,154
Sugar and molasses - - -	769,032	1,315,402	1,127,556
Beer, cider, and perry - - -	201,189	207,830	266,509
Coffee - - - - -	74,804	50,442	52,683
Hops - - - - -	65,021	57,866	42,422
Spirits - - - - -	579,984	397,210	401,083
Tea - - - - -	599,725	745,226	694,898
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff - -	384,219	252,215	252,426
Wine - - - - -	168,985	152,531	128,489
Candles - - - -	48,198	39,903	48,031
Hides, skin, and pelts - - -	129,045	110,568	144,465
Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	141,933	151,645	148,684
Wool† - - - - -	2,030,129	2,734,738	2,778,927
Paper (including paper bags) - -	175,083	214,341	224,906
Timber - - - - -	536,761	715,420	760,553
Oil of all kinds - - - -	241,001	183,553	198,074
Coal - - - - -	325,367	341,666	533,577
Earthenware, brownware, and china-ware - - - - -	73,104	114,654	95,440
Glass and glassware - - -	104,673	116,837	147,692
Gold (exclusive of specie) - -	433,961	677,075	588,527
Specie, gold - - - -	41,300	82,587	51,927
„ other - - - -	12,410	69,424	31,176
Jewellery - - - -	48,702	75,021	49,700
Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.) - -	885,615	761,084	726,636
Nails and screws - - -	64,574	63,960	35,558
Live stock - - - -	1,024,390	794,486	1,362,591
Fancy goods - - - -	51,435	68,641	85,866
Hardware and ironmongery - -	115,635	169,374	192,553
Oilmen's stores - - - -	18,101	15,957	22,775
Total - - -	14,564,472	16,419,019	16,569,566
All other articles - - -	1,797,832	2,329,062	2,452,585
Total Imports - -	16,362,304	18,748,081	19,022,151

* In 1882 and 1887 articles formerly comprised under the head of millinery were distributed under other headings.

† Including wool from across the Murray, which is also included in the returns of imports *ante*.

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Exports of principal articles at three periods.

75. The exports of 41 of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years :—

Exports of Principal Articles, 1877, 1882, and 1887.

Articles.	Value of Exports.		
	1877.	1882.	1887.
	£	£	£
Books	38,325	80,934	65,236
Stationery	29,458	44,039	34,855
Machinery	90,262	168,613	138,851
Woollens and woollen piece goods	110,286	109,042	89,290
Apparel and slops	216,482	334,688	199,450
Boots and shoes	104,207	73,037	42,261
Butter and cheese	36,977	113,852	43,307
Meats, fresh and preserved	123,782	93,966	42,627
„ salted (including hams and bacon)	10,035	35,742	12,462
Flour and biscuit	141,142	339,458	451,543
Grain, wheat	24,600	627,029	416,487
„ oats	34,805	28,550	14,774
„ other (including malt and rice)	86,694	175,390	42,037
Potatoes	77,840	110,544	27,861
Sugar and molasses	292,060	278,564	142,316
Coffee	25,112	25,578	18,593
Spirits	138,969	110,734	101,337
Tea	282,571	331,916	420,859
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	235,531	156,009	123,813
Wine	68,192	53,319	58,404
Bones and bone-dust	29,535	14,822	5,811
Candles	31,889	10,847	13,069
Horns and hoofs	2,651	2,586	633
Hides	2,997	6,838	15,250
Skins and pelts	32,564	129,267	104,874
Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	212,066	361,309	238,603
Soap	7,852	15,747	13,933
Tallow	90,455	189,304	85,640
Wool*	5,670,871	5,902,624	5,073,491
Bark	51,394	23,845	16,152
Hay, straw, and chaff	38,838	146,199	63,660
Timber	42,181	49,306	24,690
Oil of all kinds	98,944	60,968	34,957
Gold (exclusive of specie)†	2,090,112	1,497,116	243,425
Specie, gold	2,814,907	2,208,221	1,011,121
„ silver	5,500	8,007	1,415
Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	47,042	12,072	80
Copper ore, regulus, &c.	8,460	2,854	3,747
Tin, tin ore, and black sand	8,538	5,405	1,541
Live stock	317,660	609,761	529,782
Hardware and ironmongery	45,853	63,849	36,731
Total	13,817,639	14,611,951	10,014,968
All other articles	1,340,048	1,581,628	1,336,177
Total Exports	15,157,687	16,193,579	11,351,145

* Including wool from across the Murray, which is also included in the returns of imports *ante*.

† The export of gold was affected by the opening of the Melbourne Mint, which took place in 1872.

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Excess of imports over exports, &c., 1837 to 1887.

76. In 32 out of the 51 years ended with 1887 the value of imports to Victoria exceeded that of exports therefrom, but in the other 19 years the value of exports was the greater. The following is a statement of the amounts by which the imports exceeded the exports in those years in which the excess was in favour of the former, and the amounts by which the exports exceeded the imports in those years in which the excess was in the opposite direction; also the net excess of imports during the whole period:—

Imports in Excess of Exports, and the Contrary, 1837 *to* 1887.

Year.	Imports in Excess of Exports.	Exports in Excess of Imports.	Year.	Imports in Excess of Exports.	Exports in Excess of Imports.
	£	£		£	£
1837 - -	103,201	—	1865 - -	106,789	—
1838 - -	45,232	—	1866 - -	1,882,165	—
1839 - -	127,038	—	1867 - -	—	1,050,347
1840 - -	306,507	—	1868 - -	—	2,273,328
1841 - -	164,094	—	1869 - -	444,636	—
1842 - -	78,644	—	1870 - -	—	14,256
1843 - -	—	66,446	1871 - -	—	2,215,825
1844 - -	—	105,785	1872 - -	—	179,873
1845 - -	—	215,304	1873 - -	1,231,402	—
1846 - -	—	109,640	1874 - -	1,512,876	—
1847 - -	—	230,815	1875 - -	1,918,900	—
1848 - -	—	301,683	1876 - -	1,508,867	—
1849 - -	—	275,495	1877 - -	1,204,617	—
1850 - -	—	296,871	1878 - -	1,236,173	—
1851 - -	—	366,472	1879 - -	2,581,368	—
1852 - -	—	3,381,807	1880 - -	—	1,397,665
1853 - -	4,781,093	—	1881 - -	466,418	—
1854 - -	5,883,847	—	1882 - -	2,554,502	—
1855 - -	—	1,485,399	1883 - -	1,344,983	—
1856 - -	—	527,491	1884 - -	3,151,168	—
185 - -	2,176,697	—	1885 - -	2,492,846	—
1858 - -	1,119,040	—	1886 - -	6,735,254	—
1859 - -	1,755,032	—	1887 - -	7,671,006	—
1860 - -	2,131,026	—			
1861 - -	—	296,154	Total -	58,792,648	14,790,656
1862 - -	448,365	—	Deduct excess of exports - -	14,790,656	—
1863 - -	552,431	—			
1864 - -	1,076,431	—	Net excess of imports -	44,001,992	—

Balance of trade in 51 years.

77. It will be observed that in the 51 years of which mention is made in the table the imports exceeded the exports by

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44,000,000*l.*, or an average of over 863,000*l.* per annum, which excess, it should be mentioned, would be added to if the value of the British and foreign built ships placed on the register of Victoria were included with the imports, but diminished if freight, which is included in the value of imports, were also added to the exports.

Customs revenue.

78. The Customs revenue was larger in 1887 than in 1886 by over 91,000*l.*, which was due almost entirely to the natural growth of revenue under the head of import duties. For although the duties on a few articles were altered in July 1886, resulting in an estimated net annual increase of 14,200*l.* to the revenue, this addition was almost entirely neutralised by a net remission of about 13,000*l.* in consequence of other alterations made on the 27th July 1887. On that date the timber duties were raised so as to bring in an additional annual amount of about 5,000*l.*; but at the same time an estimated net annual amount of about 18,000*l.* was remitted in connexion with the sugar duties, resulting from a reduction of 33 per cent. on raw cane sugar imported with a view to its being refined in the Colony, partly counterbalanced by a doubling of the import duty on beet sugar. Under other heads of Customs revenue little change has taken place in the last two years, with the exception of an increase of 5,000*l.* in the Excise duty on tobacco, and 3,300*l.* under miscellaneous. The following are the amounts received under the different heads in the last two years:—

Customs Revenue, 1886 *and* 1887.

Heads of Revenue.	Year ended 31st December	
	1886.	1887.
	£	£
Import duties - - -	2,172,033	2,264,792
Wharfage and harbour rates -	37,969	38,632
Excise duties on—		
Spirits - - - -	60,125	60,951
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff -	69,543	64,186
Tonnage and pilotage - -	34,570	33,453
Fees - - - -	7,059	7,332
Fines and forfeitures - -	735	683
Miscellaneous - - -	9,988	13,267
Total - -	2,392,022	2,483,296

Taxation on imports.

79. The import duties received both in 1886 and 1887 amounted to nearly 12 per cent. of the total value of imports.

Revenue from spirits, wine, and beer.

80. The following is a statement of the total revenue and revenue per head received from the import and excise duties on spirits, wine, and beer during the last 23½ years :—

Revenue from Spirits, Wine, and Beer, 1865 to 1888.

Year.	Revenue received from—					Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	Import duties on—			Spirits Distilled in Victoria.	Beer made in Victoria.		
	Spirits.	Wine.	Beer.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1865 - - -	503,346	46,509	34,847	16,821	—	601,523	0 19 8
1866 - - -	452,439	40,493	30,621	29,147	—	552,700	0 17 7
1867 - - -	596,294	40,886	31,474	28,603	—	697,257	1 1 8
1868 - - -	353,899	40,355	28,429	48,180	—	470,863	0 14 2
1869 - - -	445,220	38,250	28,170	43,176	—	554,816	0 16 2
1870 - - -	455,925	28,107	23,209	34,877	—	542,118	0 15 2
1871 (six months) -	224,700	17,574	12,283	14,445	—	269,002	0 7 4
1871-2 - - -	476,408	34,890	26,723	32,479	—	570,500	0 15 3
1872-3 - - -	476,859	26,048	28,954	31,036	—	562,897	0 14 10
1873-4 - - -	501,044	32,235	32,729	32,869	—	598,877	0 15 6
1874-5 - - -	507,631	36,012	32,100	32,475	—	608,218	0 15 6
875-6 - - -	520,557	37,716	27,096	33,437	—	618,806	0 15 8
1876-7 - - -	499,568	39,139	30,352	34,768	—	603,827	0 15 1
1877-8 - - -	489,236	37,893	29,346	36,309	—	592,784	0 14 6
1878-9 - - -	455,157	31,462	27,143	36,088	—	549,850	0 13 3
1879-80 - -	420,872	34,095	27,372	41,230	—	523,569	0 12 5
1880-81 - -	430,909	43,171	29,721	52,232	62,557	618,590	0 14 5
1881-2 - - -	445,431	45,112	29,770	52,620	98,955	669,888	0 15 3
1882-3 - - -	468,746	44,100	32,372	52,522	11,256	608,996	0 13 6
1883-4 - - -	472,259	39,096	33,845	53,638	—	598,838	0 12 11
1884-5 - - -	518,370	42,101	35,210	68,930	—	664,611	0 14 0
1885-6 - - -	545,170	41,086	37,904	67,250	—	691,410	0 14 2
1886-7 - - -	566,134	41,335	41,126	56,557	—	705,152	0 14 0
1887-8 (approx.) -	611,256	44,688	46,047	65,603	—	767,594	0 14 9

NOTE.—The duty on imported spirits is 12*s.* per gallon ; on wine, 8*s.* for sparkling, and 6*s.* for other kinds ; on beer 9*d.* per gallon ; and on spirits distilled in Victoria, from 8*s.* to 10*s.* per gallon, according to the material from which made.

Total and average receipts from spirits, wine, and beer.

81. The total amount received during the 23½ years was 14,242,686*l.*, or an annual average of 15*s.* 1*d.* per head of the population. It will be noticed that the amounts per head vary from 1*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* in 1867 to 12*s.* 5*d.* in 1879–80; also that the amount per head received in 1887–8 was 9*d.* more than in the preceding

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Vessels inwards and outwards.

year, and more also than in any previous year since 1876–7, except 1881–2.

82. The number and tonnage of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports was greater in 1887 than in any former year. The number in 1887 exceeded that in the preceding year by 222, or by nearly 5 per cent., and the tonnage also was greater by about 123,000, or by about 3½ per cent. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of vessels inwards and outwards during the 20 years ended with 1887:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared, 1868 *to* 1887.

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1868 - -	2,067	653,362	33,613	2,172	685,207	35,332	4,239	1,338,569
1869 - -	2,320	721,274	35,628	2,334	730,961	35,696	4,654	1,452,235
1870 - -	2,093	663,764	32,838	2,187	681,098	33,836	4,280	1,344,862
1871 - -	2,137	663,002	33,789	2,257	692,023	35,050	4,394	1,355,025
1872 - -	2,104	666,336	33,551	2,234	694,426	35,353	4,338	1,360,762
1873 - -	2,187	756,103	36,307	2,226	762,912	36,216	4,413	1,519,015
1874 - -	2,100	777,110	36,834	2,122	792,509	36,472	4,222	1,569,619
1875 - -	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,223	833,499	38,454	4,394	1,673,885
1876 - -	2,086	810,062	38,960	2,150	847,026	39,600	4,236	1,657,088
1877 - -	2,192	939,661	43,923	2,219	935,324	43,786	4,411	1,874,985
1878 - -	2,119	951,750	43,082	2,173	961,677	43,391	4,292	1,913,427
1879 - -	2,084	963,087	43,676	2,083	977,135	43,648	4,167	1,940,222
1880 - -	2,076	1,078,885	51,585	2,115	1,101,014	52,153	4,191	2,179,899
1881 - -	2,125	1,219,231	54,792	2,123	1,192,671	54,521	4,248	2,411,902
1882 - -	2,089	1,349,093	55,814	2,079	1,341,791	54,855	4,168	2,690,884
1883 - -	2,023	1,464,752	61,630	2,064	1,499,579	61,969	4,087	2,964,331
1884 - -	1,986	1,569,162	64,488	1,989	1,582,425	64,546	3,975	3,151,587
1885 - -	2,154	1,631,266	66,624	2,119	1,628,892	66,201	4,273	3,260,158
1886 - -	2,307	1,848,058	73,949	2,324	1,887,329	73,908	4,631	3,735,387
1887 - -	2,435	1,920,180	80,918	2,418	1,938,063	79,888	4,853	3,858,243

Increase in shipping.

83. Some idea of the extension of Victorian commerce may be formed from the circumstance that, although the population of the Colony increased by less than 60 per cent. during the 20 years ended with 1887, the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in the last as compared with the first year of that period increased nearly threefold; also, that whilst the population in the seven years ended with 1887 increased only 20 per cent., the tonnage in 1887 as compared with that in 1880 increased 77 per cent.

Vessels on Registers of Australasian Colonies.

84. The following is a statement of the number and tonnage of vessels on the registers of all the Australasian Colonies and Fiji in 1887:—

Vessels Owned in Australasian Colonies, 1887.

Colony.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Victoria - -	103	27,223	267	48,508	370	75,731
New South Wales -	484	53,151	651	76,752	1,135	129,903
Queensland - -	80	4,467	109	10,319	189	14,786
South Australia -	93	11,681	231	27,280	324	38,961
Western Australia -	9	775	109	7,523	118	8,298
Tasmania - -	30	5,213	179	13,346	209	18,559
New Zealand - -	166	38,642	401	54,972	567	93,614
Total - -	965	141,152	1,947	238,700	2,912	379,852
Fiji - -	—	—	14	631	14	631

Postal returns.

85. The following figures show the number of post offices throughout the Colony, and the number of letters, packets, and newspapers which passed through them in the last two years. It will be noticed that whilst in 1887, as compared with 1886, the letters and newspapers increased by about a thirteenth, the packets increased by as much as a ninth:—

Postal Returns, 1886 *and* 1887.

Year.	Number of Post Offices.	Number despatched and received of			
		Letters.*	News-papers.	Packets.	Total.
1886 - - -	1,429	38,392,414	17,482,490	6,926,525	62,801,429
1887 - - -	1,492	41,287,972	18,869,055	7,670,615	67,827,642
Increase -	63	2,895,558	1,386,565	744,090	5,026,213

Proportion of letters per head.

86. The letters despatched and received were, to each head of the population, in the proportion of 38·8 in 1886, and of 40·5 in 1887.

* Including post-cards. These were first issued on the 1st April 1876. The number issued in 1887 was 3,093,261 as against 2,804,850 in 1886.

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Registered letters.

87. The number of registered letters in 1887 was 425,494, or 1, in 97 of all the letters posted.

Dead letters, &c.

88. The dead and irregularly-posted letters numbered in 1886, 286,450, or 1 in every 134, and in 1887, 321,502, or about 1 in every 144, of the total number posted. In the former year, 2,494, and in the latter year, 3,096, contained articles of value. The total value of notes, cheques, cash, &c. included [enclosed ?] in 1886 was 18,149*l.*, for 16,381*l.* of which, or 90 per cent., owners were found during the year; and in 1887, 18,673*l.*, for17,853*l.* of which, or 96 per cent., owners were found. In 1886, 13,325, or 1 in every 2,881 letters posted, and in 1887, 8,256, or 1 in every 5,001, were without addresses, or were imperfectly addressed. Of these, 279 in 1886, and 350 in 1887, were envelopes without correspondence, covering cash, cheques, &c. to the value of over 3,000*l.* and 4,000*l.* respectively. Only 26 letters in 1886, but as many as 43 letters in 1887, bore obscene or libellous addresses, and were detained for that reason. In 1886 nearly 4,000 letters, and in 1887, 2,915 letters, were refused by the persons to whom addressed, chiefly on account of postal charges, which were, however, subsequently recovered in most cases from the senders. In compliance with the provisions of the Post Office Act, 1883, 559 letters in 1886, and 830 in 1887, having been unclaimed at hotels to which they were addressed, were forwarded to the dead letter office. Under the powers given by the same Act, 54 letters in 1886, and 8 letters in 1887, intended for promoters of lotteries, &c., were detained during the year. Twenty-seven letters in 1886. and 35 letters in 1887, bore obliterated or defaced stamps. Besides letters, 45,486 packets and 39,152 newspapers were received at the dead letter office during the year 1887; most of the former were returned, delivered, &c., but most of the latter were destroyed.

Money orders.

89. Money order offices in Victoria in connexion with the Post Office had been established in 369 places up to the end of 1887. Besides the issue and payment of money orders at these places, such orders are issued in favour of Victoria, and Victorian orders are paid, not only in Great Britain and Ireland, and the various Australasian Colonies, but in most of the other principal countries of the world. The following is a comparative statement of the business in the last two years:—

Money Orders, 1886 *and* 1887.

Year.	No. of Money Order Offices.	Money Orders Issued.		Money Orders Paid.	
		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
			£		£
1886 -	362	206,305	626,376	204,914	629,340
1887 -	369	217,385	653,054	211,519	647,135
Increase -	7	11,080	26,678	6,605	17,795

Rates of commission on money orders.

90. The commission on money orders for sums not exceeding 5*l.* is 6*d.* to places in Victoria, and 1*s.* to places in the other Australasian Colonies. For sums over 5*l.* and under 10*l.* the commission is 1*s.* to places in Victoria, and 2*s.* to places in the other Colonies. To the United Kingdom and most other countries outside of Australasia the scale is as follows:—Not exceeding 2*l.*, one shilling; from 2*l.* to 5*l.*, two shillings and sixpence; from 5*l.* to 7*l.*, three shillings and sixpence; from 7*l.* to 10*l.*, five shillings. Money orders may be made payable by telegraph either in the Colony or to any of the other Australasian Colonies (except New Zealand) on payment, in addition to the above rates, for a message of 10 words. Money orders are not granted for sums exceeding 10*l.*

Electric telegraphs.

91. Telegraphic communication exists in Victoria between 515 stations within her own borders. Her lines are connected besides with the lines of New South Wales, and, by means of them, with Queensland and New Zealand; also with the lines of South Australia, and, by their means, with Western Australia, the Eastern Archipelago, Asia, Europe, and America; also with a submarine cable to Tasmania. During 1887 the lines were extended by 21 miles, and the length of wire was added to by 64 miles; a further considerable increase also occurred in the number of telegrams, consequent on a reduction of the rates in 1885, the number in 1887 being nearly twice as numerous as in 1884. The number of stations, the length of lines and wire, and the amount of business done in the last two years are given in the following table:—

Electric Telegraphs, 1886 *and* 1887.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of—		Number of Telegrams.		
		Line (poles).	Wire.	Paid.	Unpaid.	Total.
1886 - -	420	4,094	10,111	1,938,049	85,809	2,023,858
1887 - -	515	4,115	10,175	2,176,915	83,565	2,260,480
Increase -	95	21	64	238,866	—	236,622
Decrease -	—	—	—	—	2,244	—

Additional lines and wires.

92. Besides the above, there were in operation 136 miles of line and about 2,153½ miles of wire for private wires and telephone lines. There were also nearly 20½ miles of aërial cable, having a length of wire of 441½ miles; moreover, 6¾ miles of underground cable had been laid, giving a length of wire of 321½ miles.

Railways, length, cost, &c.

93. The number of miles of railway open on the 30th June 1887 was 1,880, consisting of 1,643½ miles of single and 236½ miles of double line. The following table shows the names,

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lengths, and cost of construction of the different lines, and the distance travelled during the year ended 30th June 1887:—

Railways.—Length, Cost, and Distance Travelled.

Names of Lines.	Length open on 30th June 1887.			Cost of Construction.		Distance Travelled during the Year.
	Double Line.	Single Line.	Total.	Total.	Average per Mile.	
Northern System.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	£	£	Miles.
Melbourne to Sandhurst	100¾	—	100¾	4,700,426	46,654	
Sandhurst to Echuca	—	55¼	55¼	675,634	12,229	
Lancefield Junction to Lancefield	—	14½	14½	62,280	4,295	
Carlsruhe to Daylesford	—	22¾	22¾	158,174	6,953	
Castlemaine to Dunolly	—	47½	47½	300,369	6,324	
Dunolly to St. Arnaud	—	33	33	159,530	4,834	
St. Arnaud to Donald	—	23¾	23¾	93,801	3,950	
Castlemaine to Maldon	—	10¼	10¼	56,700	5,532	
Ballarat to Maryborough	—	42½	42½	267,047	6,283	
Ballarat Racecourse (Branch line)	—	2	2	6,972	3,486	1,936,059
Maryborough to Avoca	—	15	15	60,946	4,063	
Sandhurst to Inglewood	—	30	30	155,650	5,188	
Inglewood to Charlton	—	42¾	42¾	165,661	3,875	
Eaglehawk to Kerang	—	73¾	73¾	278,834	3,781	
Charlton to Wycheproof	—	16½	16½	83,193	5,042	
Korong Vale to Boort	—	18	18	69,866	3,881	
Creswick to Daylesford	—	23½	23½	139,100	5,919	
Wedderburn Junction to Wedderburn	—	4¾	4¾	16,850	3,547	
Total	100¾	475¾	576½	7,451,033	12,925	
Western System.						
Footscray Junction to Williamstown	6	—	6	475,647	79,274	
Newport to Geelong (including line to Wharf and Williamstown Racecourse line)	1¾	37¾	39½	1,120,278	28,278	
North Geelong to Ballarat	53½	—	53½	1,778,560	33,244	
Geelong to Queenscliff	—	20¾	20¾	110,459	5,323	
Geelong and Colac (including Racecourse branch)	—	52½	52½	312,342	5,949	
Colac to Camperdown	—	28	28	124,252	4,438	
Camperdown to Terang	—	13¾	13¾	63,687	—	
Warrenheip to Gordons	—	13	13	85,665	6,590	
Gordons to Bacchus Marsh	—	7¼	7¼	90,714	—	
Ballarat to Ararat	—	57	57	335,941	5,894	
Ararat to Stawell	—	18¾	18¾	124,634	6,647	
Stawell to Horsham	—	53½	53½	255,500	4,776	2,260,663
Horsham to Dimboola	—	21¼	21¼	74,815	3,521	
Ballarat to Scarsdale	—	13¼	13¼	58,304	4,400	
Ararat to Hamilton	—	66½	66½	313,392	4,713	
Hamilton to Portland (including line to Portland wharf)	—	54	54	277,365	5,136	
Branxholme to Casterton	—	32	32	173,275	5,415	
Braybrook Junction to Bacchus Marsh	—	24¼	24¼	241,479	9,958	
Lal Lal Racecourse	—	2	2	11,187	5,593	
Murtoa to Warracknabeal	—	31¼	31¼	124,736	3,992	
Ballarat Cattle Yards Branch	—	3	3	11,815	3,938	
Dimboola to South Australian Border	—	62	62	295,619	4,674	
Lubeck to Rupanyup	—	9½	9½	33,009	3,386	
Total	61¼	621¼	682½	6,492,675	9,455	

Names of Lines.	Length open on 30th June 1887.			Cost of Construction.		Distance Travelled during the Year.
	Double Line.	Single Line.	Total.	Total.	Average per Mile.	
North-Eastern System.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	£	£	Miles.
Essendon Junction to Essendon (including Racecourse line)	5	—	5	124,882	24,976	
Essendon to Wodonga	43¾	138¼	182	1,926,208	10,584	
Wodonga to Murray River	—	2¼	2¼	35,847	15,932	
Tallarook to Yea	—	23¾	23¾	148,271	6,243	
Mangalore to Shepparton	—	45	45	239,322	5,318	
Shepparton to Numurkah	—	20½	20½	66,142	3,226	
Toolamba to Tatura	—	7	7	27,270	3,896	1,744,283
Benalla to St. James	—	20½	20½	73,013	3,562	
Wangaratta to Beechworth	—	23	23	157,953	6,868	
Everton to Myrtleford	—	16½	16½	73,546	4,457	
Springs to Wahgunyah	—	14	14	67,561	4,826	
North Melbourne to Coburg	½	4½	5	140,177	28,035	
St. James to Yarrawonga	—	19¾	19¾	84,260	4,266	
Total	49¼	335	384¼	3,164,452	8,235	
Eastern System.						
Spencer and Flinders streets Junction	—	¾	¾	7,166	9,555	
South Yarra to Oakleigh	6¾	—	6¾	244,856	36,275	
Oakleigh to Sale	—	118¼	118¼	802,017	6,782	
Traralgon to Heyfield (including one mile to Traralgon Junction)	—	23¼	23¼	112,209	4,826	1,224,971
Heyfield to Bairnsdale	—	11	11	32,450	—	
Morwell to Mirboo	—	20	20	143,650	7,182	
Hawthorn to Lilydale	2	18¼	20¼	214,020	10,569	
Caulfield to Frankston	—	20	20	127,060	6,353	
Hobson's Bay Suburban	16½	—	16½	1,668,214	50,552	825,402
Total	25¼	211½	236¾	3,351,642	14,157	
Grand Total	236½	1,643½	1,880	20,459,802	10,835	7,991,378

Railways in progress.

94. Under the Railway Construction Act, 1884 (48 Vict., No. 821), which came into operation on the 12th December 1884, 62 new lines, of an aggregate length of about 1,200 miles, were authorised, at a total estimated cost of nearly six millions sterling. Of these lines, 54, of a total length of 1,167 miles, were country, and eight, of a total length of 28½ miles, were suburban lines. The expenditure authorised for the country lines, including stations, but not including permanent way materials or rolling stock, was 3,960*l.* per mile, and for suburban lines, including stations and permanent way material, but not including rolling stock, 14,294*l.* per mile. The gross additional amount authorised for rolling stock

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is 178,000*l.*, and for permanent way material (on country lines only) 415,000*l.* Of the 1,200 miles authorised under the Act, 188 had been completed and opened for traffic on the 30th June 1887, whilst 337 miles were in progress, and the remaining 675 miles had not been commenced.

Miles open and travelled.

95. By the following statement of the number of miles open and the number of train miles travelled, and of the passengers and goods carried during the financial years 1885–6 and 1886–7, it is shown that a considerable increase took place in all the items, the train mileage and goods traffic having increased by about 10 per cent., and the passengers carried by 16 per cent. It must be borne in mind that in both years only a portion of the extent set down as open was so during the whole year:—

Railways.—Miles Open and Travelled, and Passengers and Goods Carried, 1885–6 *and* 1886–7.

Year.	Extent Opened.	Train Mileage.	Passengers.	Goods and Live Stock.
	Miles.	Miles.	No.	Tons.
1885–6 - - -	1,742¾	7,256,703	42,511,014	2,724,095
1886–7 - - -	1,880	7,991,378	49,219,857	2,972,761
Increase - -	137¼	734,675	6,708,843	248,666

Receipts and working expenses.

96. The following were the railway receipts and working expenses during the last two financial years:—

Railways.—Receipts and Working Expenses, 1885–1886, *and* 1886–7.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.				Working Expenses.	Net Income.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Receipts.
	Passenger Fares.	Freight on Goods and Live Stock.	Sundries.	Total.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	Per Cent.
1886 -	1,014,424	1,141,578	173,124	2,329,126	1,310,537	1,018,589	56·26
1887 -	1,078,693	1,193,582	180,803	2,453,078	1,427,116	1,025,962	58·18
Increase -	64,269	52,004	7,679	123,952	116,579	7,373	1·92

Increase in railway income.

97. It will be observed that although the average extent of railway lines open for traffic was 6 per cent. greater in 1886–7 than in 1885–6, the net income increased by only 7,400*l.*; for although the gross receipts were larger by 124,000*l.*, nearly the whole of this amount was absorbed by the additional working expenses, the proportion of which to the receipts increased by nearly 2 per cent. This result is attributed by the Railway Commissioners to concessions made on passenger fares and

merchandise rates, which, in addition to those in the preceding year, make a gross reduction, since the passing of the Railway Commissioners Act, of 250,000*l.*, which is equivalent to 10·2 per cent. of the gross railway revenue of 1886–7.

Crown lands unalienated.

98. According to the latest computation, the total area of the Colony is 56,245,760 acres; and if from this be deducted the sum of the lands granted, sold, and selected, amounting—less the extent forfeited—to 22,478,510 acres, it will follow that the residue, representing the Crown lands neither alienated nor in process of alienation, amounted at the end of 1887 to 33,767,250 acres.

Public estate, 1887.

99. The whole of this residue, however, is not available for settlement, for it embraces lands occupied by roads, the unsold portions of the sites of towns, and beds of rivers and lakes, the State forests, water, timber, and other reserves. Deducting these lands—amounting in the aggregate to 4,933,416 acres, also that portion of the Colony known as the Mallee country, containing 11,572,000 acres, leased for pastoral purposes under a special Act, and 3,476,483 acres occupied under lease or license for various terms of years—from the extent unalienated and unselected, already stated to have been 33,767,250 acres, it will be found that the available area is narrowed to 13,785,351 acres. This will be at once seen by the following table, which shows the position of the public estate at the end of 1887:—

Public Estate of Victoria on 31*st December* 1887.

Condition of Land.	Approximate Number of Acres.
Land alienated in fee-simple	15,144,589
Land in process of alienation under deferred payments	7,333,921
Roads in connexion with the above	1,313,300
Water reserves	162,650
Reserves for agricultural colleges and experimental farms	136,295
Timber reserves and State forests	1,329,420
Other reserves	205,360
Unsold land in towns, beds of rivers, &c.	1,786,391
Mallee country	11,572,000
Land in occupation under—	
Pastoral leases	1,350,770
Grazing area leases	1,908,000
Grazing licenses for auriferous lands	217,713
Available for settlement at end of 1887	13,785,351
Total area of Victoria	56,245,760

Crown lands available for settlement.

100. The area of the Colony, exclusive of the Mallee country, is 44,673,760 acres, of which, at the end of 1887, 22,478,440 acres, or 50 per cent., were already alienated or in process of alienation; 4,933,416 acres, or 11 per cent., were occupied by reserves, &c.; 3,476,483 acres, or 8 per cent., were occupied under lease for pastoral purposes; and 13,785,351 acres, or 31 per cent., were available for settlement.

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Amount realised on Crown land alienated in 1887.

101. The amount realised for Crown lands finally alienated in 1887 was 442,095*l.*, or at the rate of 1*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* per acre. Of this sum only part was received during the year, nearly all the remainder having been paid in former years as rents and license fees. The proportion sold by auction realised 89,161*l.*, or an average of 4*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* per acre; and the proportion sold otherwise than at auction realised 352,934*l.*, or an average of 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* per acre.

Amount realised, 1836 to 1887.

102. From the period of the first settlement of the Colony to the end of 1887 the amount nominally realised by the sale of Crown lands was 23,337,419*l.*, or at the rate of 1*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* per acre. It must, however, be remembered that payment of a considerable portion of this amount extended over a series of years without interest, allowance for which, at the current rate, would, it is evident, materially reduce the amount the State actually obtained for the land. It may be calculated that with interest at 5 per cent., if the payment of the 1*l.* per acre by equal annual instalments be extended over 10 years without interest, the amount of purchase money is really equivalent to only 15*s.* 6*d.* per acre, and if it be extended over 20 years, it is reduced to 12*s.* 6*d.* per acre.

Land under tillage.

103. The extent of land returned as under cultivation in 1887–8 amounted to 2,576,405 acres, as against 2,417,582 acres in 1886–7. The increase shown by the figures was, therefore, 158,823 acres.

103*a*. The average area in cultivation to each person in the Colony was about 2½ acres in the year under review, as against 2¼ acres five years previously, and 1¾ acres 10 years previously. The exact proportions at the three periods were as follow:—

Average Area Cultivated to each Person in the Colony.

	Acres.
1877–8 - - - - -	1·74
1882–3 - - - - -	2·25
1887–8 - - - - -	2·49

Land under principal crops.

104. The principal crops grown in Victoria are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay, and green forage. In 1887–8 the area under wheat exceeded by 180,000 acres that in 1886–7, and was also larger than in any previous year; the area under oats exceeded by 13,000 acres that in 1886–7, but was exceeded in 1885–6 by 17,000; it was, however, larger than in any other year; the area under potatoes and hay was exceeded by that in 1886–7, but was larger than in any other year; the area under barley was larger by 4,000 acres than that in 1886–7, but was exceeded in each of the seven years ended with 1885–6; the area returned under green forage was less than that returned in many previous years, but this is accounted for by the fact already mentioned, viz., that the collectors were told not to visit holdings on which there was no other cultivated land than that laid down under permanent artificial grass, which crop is included under the head of green forage.

The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons :—

Land under Principal Crops, 1887 *and* 1888.

Year ended March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1887 - - -	1,052,685	185,765	37,031	49,974	445,150	284,186
1888 - - -	1,232,943	199,036	40,983	48,263	441,812	164,457
Increase -	180,258	13,271	3,952	—	—	—
Decrease -	—	—	—	1,711	3,338	119,729

Produce of principal crops.

105. The gross yield of wheat exceeded that in 1886–7 by nearly 1¼ million bushels, or something more than a tenth, and was only exceeded in one previous year, viz., 1883–4; the yield of oats was greater than in any previous year, except 1885–6 and 1883–4; the yield of barley was larger than in 1886–7, but was exceeded in five previous years; the yield of potatoes and that of hay were much greater than in any previous year. The following is a statement of the gross produce of each of the principal crops in 1886–7 and 1887–8 :—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1887 *and* 1888.

Year ended March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1887 - - -	12,100,036	4,256,079	827,852	170,661	483,049
1888 - - -	13,328,765	4,562,530	956,476	198,225	624,122
Increase -	1,228,729	306,451	128,624	27,564	141,073

Yield of principal crops, 1872 to 1888.

106. In the past season, over the Colony, as a whole, the acreable yield of wheat was below, whilst that of oats, barley, potatoes, and hay was above, the average; the yield per acre of wheat was lower than in any of the 16 other years named in the following table, except 1886 and 1885, the three years ended with 1883 and the year 1879; but that of oats was higher than in any of the years except 1880, and the four years ended with 1885; that of barley was higher

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than in any except 1880; that of potatoes than in any except 1885; and that of hay than in any except 1884 and 1880:—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1872 *to* 1888.

Year ended March.	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1872 - - -	13·45	18·76	20·00	3·22	1·40
1873 - - -	16·51	19·55	20·86	3·45	1·32
1874 - - -	13·58	15·69	19·84	2·86	1·27
1875 - - -	14·57	18·46	21·01	3·53	1·32
1876 - - -	15·49	21·92	22·20	3·37	1·33
1877 - - -	13·15	19·91	21·18	3·31	1·22
1878 - - -	12·41	19·39	19·81	3·11	1·17
1879 - - -	8·76	17·60	18·24	2·71	1·21
1880 - - -	13·29	24·00	24·67	4·04	1·45
1881 - - -	9·95	17·62	15·57	2·81	1·20
1882 - - -	9·40	24·57	19·07	3·43	1·13
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
Mean - -	12·15	21·16	20·19	3·48	1·24

Prices of agricultural produce.

107. The following are the average prices of agricultural produce during each of the last 19 years:—

Prices of Agricultural Produce, 1870 *to* 1888.

During February and March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Hay.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangolds.
	per bushel.	per bushel.	per bushel.	per bushel.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1870 - - -	4 3	3 7	4 0	4 10	77	75 0	—	40 0
1871 - - -	5 4	3 9	4 11	5 3	76	70 0	—	36 0
1872 - - -	4 8	2 11½	3 6½	4 2	64	65 6	—	28 1
1873 - - -	4 9	3 5	4 1	3 10	81	67 4	—	24 5
1874 - - -	5 9	5 6	5 3	5 9	83	118 3	—	31 4
1875 - - -	4 5	4 3	4 6	4 8	89	89 0	—	28 0
1876 - - -	4 7	3 3	3 10	4 8	82	87 0	—	23 8
1877 - - -	5 10	3 7	3 10	4 4	93	114 0	—	31 6
1878 - - -	5 1	4 6	4 4	5 4	87	115 0	—	37 3
1879 - - -	4 2	3 6	4 1	4 2	75	92 4	—	25 6
1880 - - -	4 0½	2 3½	4 8	3 6½	63	69 11	—	24 11
1881 - - -	4 1¾	2 3	4 11¼	5 0	60	46 3	—	24 0
1882 - - -	5 0	3 3	3 6	5 4	76	70 0	—	25 4
1883 - - -	4 9	3 1	4 1	4 7	81	75 4	—	30 5
1884 - - -	3 8	2 8	3 6	4 8	67	74 8	35 5	29 5
1885 - - -	3 4	3 0	3 6	4 5	74	80 0	40 0	34 0
1886 - - -	3 10	2 10	3 3	4 1	74	100 0	48 6	24 6
1887 - - -	3 9	2 9	3 3	4 4	73	80 0	54 0	28 4
1888 - - -	3 4	2 7	3 6	4 2	59	65 0	27 0	24 0

Prices of agricultural produce, 1887–8, and previous years.

108. The prices of all articles of agricultural produce were extremely low in 1888, which was also the case in regard to most of the articles in the four preceding years. Wheat especially has shown a marked decline, for although the price was as high as 5*s.* 10*d.* in 1877, in the last five years it was less than 4*s.*, falling to only 3*s.* 4*d.* in 1885 and 1888. There was also a serious falling off in the prices of hay, potatoes, and turnips; the price of the first having fallen from 73*s.* in 1887 to 59*s.* in 1888, that of the second-named varied from 100*s.* in 1886 to 65*s.* in 1888, and that of the third from 54*s.* in 1887 to 27*s.* in 1888, the latter prices being, with only one exception in the case of potatoes, by far the lowest shown in the table. Likewise the price of oats and barley was lower than in 1888 on only two previous occasions, that of maize on three, and that of mangold on only one previous occasion.

Value of agricultural produce.

109. The value of the agricultural produce raised in Victoria during the year ended 1st March 1888 may be estimated at close upon 7⅓ millions sterling. The following table shows the means whereby such an estimate is arrived at:—

Value of Agricultural Produce, 1887–8.

Name of Crop.	Gross Produce and Price.			Estimated Value.
			£ *s.* *d.*	£
Wheat	13,328,451 bushels	@	0 3 4	2,221,409
Oats	4,562,530 „	@	0 2 7	589,327
Barley	956,476 „	@	0 3 6	167,383
Other cereals	1,065,511 „	@	0 3 6	185,964
Potatoes	198,225 tons	@	3 5 0	644,231
Other root crops	41,138 „	@	3 0 0	123,414
Hay	624,122 „	@	2 19 0	1,841,660
Green forage	264,457 acres	@	2 10 0	661,143
Tobacco	11,853 cwt.	@	2 16 0	33,188
Grapes, not made into wine	42,389 „	@	1 0 0	42,389
Wine	1,167,874 gallons	@	0 4 0	233,575
Brandy	3,352 „	@	0 10 0	1,676
Hops	5,405 cwt.	@	5 0 0	27,025
Other crops	6,178 acres	@	5 0 0	30,890
Garden and orchard produce	26,269 „	@	20 0 0	525,380
	Total	-	-	7,328,654

Live stock, 1881 and 1887.

110. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the census of 1881, and since that time the figures have been brought on by estimates furnished by the municipal authorities. The following are the census numbers, and the

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numbers in March 1888 as derived from the municipal estimaes, alluded to :—

Live Stock, 1881 *and* 1888.

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
3rd April 1881 (enumerated) -	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
March 1888 (estimated) -	312,105	341,812	966,605	1,308,417	10,606,721	240,519
Increase - - -	36,589	12,614	9,536	22,150	246,436	—
Decrease - - -	—	—	—	—	—	1,417

Wool produced 1886 and 1887.

111. The quantity of wool produced in Victoria during the year 1887 may be set down as 48,419,204 lbs., valued at 2,400,438*l.* These figures represent the excess of exports over imports during the year, to which is added the quantity and value of wool used in Victorian woollen mills. In the previous year the quantity produced similarly estimated was 57,439,634 lbs., valued at 2,791,923*l.*

Value of pastoral produce.

112. The following is an estimate of the gross value of pastoral produce raised on holdings of all descriptions in 1887–8 :—

Value of Pastoral Produce, 1887–8.

Nature of Produce.	Value.
	£
Milk, butter, and cheese, from 345,104 milch cows kept, @ 8*l.* 10*s*	2,933,384
Estimated value of stock produced in 1886 :—	
Cattle, 345,104, viz., 230,069, @ 8*l.*, and 115,035 (calves), @ 30*s.*	2,013,104
Sheep, 2,655,996, @ 7*s.* 6*d.* - - - -	1,005,998
Pigs, 73,038, @ 2*l.* 10*s.* - - - - -	182,585
Horses, 15,750 @ 8*l.* - - - - -	126,000
Excess of exports over imports of wool, Customs value - -	2,294,487
Estimated value of wool used in the Colony for manufacturing purposes, 1,609,246 lbs., @ 1*s.* 6*d.*	120,693
Total - - - - - -	8,676,251

Gold raised, 1886 and 1887.

113. The gold raised in Victoria in 1887 was 617,751 ozs., which is less than the quantity obtained in 1886 by 47,445 ozs., repre-

senting at 4*l.* per oz. a diminished value of 189,780*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1886 *and* 1887.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at 4*l.* per oz.
	Ozs.	£
1886 - - - -	665,196	2,660,784
1887 - - - -	617,751	2,471,004
Decrease - - -	47,445	189,780

Gold produce of Australia, 1851 to 1887.

114. The total quantity of gold raised in each Australasian Colony from 1851 to 1887 has been as follows:—

Summary of Gold Produce of Australasia, 1851 *to* 1887.

	Oz.
Victoria - - -	55,010,933
New South Wales - -	9,845,906
Queensland - - -	5,652,568
South Australia - - -	36,569
Tasmania - - -	493,279
New Zealand - - -	11,220,598
Total - -	82,259,853

Value of gold raised in Australasia.

115. The average value of the gold raised varies in the different Colonies. If it be estimated at 4*l.* per ounce, the total value would be 329,039,412*l.*, or if at 3*l.* 15*s.* per ounce it would be 308,574,449*l.*

Value of mining produce.

116. The estimated value of the produce raised from Victorian mines and quarries in 1887 is summarised as follows:—

Value of Mining Produce, 1887.

	£
Gold - - - -	2,471,004
Other metals and minerals -	15,782
Stone from quarries - -	174,839
Total - -	2,661,625

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Wages.

117. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1886, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne, 1877, 1882, *and* 1887.

Description of Labour.	1877.	1882.	1887.
1.—DOMESTIC SERVANTS.			
Males.			
Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Butlers - - - „	—	—	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females.			
Cooks - - - per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 60*l.*	35*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Laundresses - - „	30*l.* to 45*l.*	35*l.* to 50*l.*	35*l.* to 52*l.*
Housemaids - - „	25*l.* to 36*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*
Nursemaids - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*
General servants - „	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*
Girls - - - per week, with board and lodging	—	—	5*s.* to 8*s.*
2.—HOTEL SERVANTS.			
Males.			
Barmen - - - per week, with board and lodging	25*s.* to 35*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Waiters - - - „	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Boots - - - „	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Ostlers - - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*
Cooks - - - „	20*s.* to 50*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females.			
Barmaids - - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Waitresses - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Housemaids - - per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks - - - „	50*l.* to 100*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*
3.—FARM SERVANTS.			
Males.			
Ploughmen - - per week, and found	18*s.* to 25*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 22*s.* 6*d.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Farm labourers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Milkmen for dairies - „	15*s.* to 25*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*

Description of Labour.		1877.	1882.	1887.
3.—FARM SERVANTS—*cont.*				
Males—cont.				
Cheesemakers	per week, and found	—	—	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Reapers*	per acre, and found	5*s.* to 15*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers*	„	4*s.* to 8*s.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Threshers*	per bushel, and found	4*d.* to 9*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*
Cooks	per annum, and found	50*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females.				
Dairymaids	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Cooks	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
General servants	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Married couples (generally useful)	„	60*l.* to 70*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*
Hop-pickers	per bushel	—	—	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers	per bag	—	—	6*d.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.				
Males.				
Boundary riders	per annum, with rations	35*l.* to 50*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l*	40*l* to 60*l.*
Shepherds	„	35*l.* to 52*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*
Stockmen	„	40*l.* to 75*l.*	60*l.* to 75*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*
Hutkeepers	„	20*l.* to 40*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks	„	40*l.* to 52*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Labourers	per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Drovers	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Sheepwashers	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	12*s.* to 15*s.*	12*s.* to 15*s.*	12*s.* to 15*s.*
Females.				
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	45*l.* to 55*l.*	45*l.* to 55*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*
General servants	„	25*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*
Married couples	per annum, with rations	50*l.* to 80*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.				
Printers	per 1,000	1*s.*	1*s.*	1*s.* 1*d.*
Lithographers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Paper rulers	„	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*

* Of late years the greater portion of the reaping, mowing, and threshing has been done by machinery.

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Description of Labour.		1877.	1882.	1887.
6.—In Watches, Jewellery, and Precious Metals.				
Watchmakers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Manufacturing jewellers	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.*
Enamellers	„	6*l.* to 8*l.*	6*l.* to 8*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
7.—In Metals other than Gold and Silver.				
Blacksmiths	per day	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Farriers, firemen	per week	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*
„ floormen	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	35*s.* to 40*s.*
Hammermen	per day	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Turners	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	„	12*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	„	9*s.* to 11*s.*	9*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Moulders	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.*
Galvanizers	„	3*l.*	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	„	3*l.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.*
8.—In Carriages and Harness.				
Smiths	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*
Bodymakers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*
Wheelers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Painters	per day	9*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vicemen	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 30*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Saddlers	„	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
9.—Workers in Ships and Boats.				
Sailors— Sailing vessels	per month, and found	5*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
Steamships	„	6*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day	13*s.*	12*s.* to 13*s.*	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour	1*s.*	1*s.*	1*s.*
10.—In Houses and Buildings.				
Masons	per day	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Bricklayers	„	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Slaters	„	10*s.*	12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*l.*
Carpenters	„	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Labourers	„	7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.*
Painters and glaziers	„	9*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*

Description of Labour.	1877.	1882.	1887.
11.—IN FURNITURE, &c.			
Cabinetmakers - - per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Upholsterers - - „	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Polishers - - - „	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Coopers - - - per day	10*s.*	10*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—IN DRESS.			
Tailors - - - per hour	1*s.*	10*d.*	10*d.*
„ - - - per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
„ in factories - „	2*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Mantlemakers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Milliners—			
First class - - „	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Second class - „	35*s.* to 50*s.*	35*s.*	1*l.* to 2*l.*
Dressmakers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Bootmakers - - { riveting children's boots, per pair }	6*d.*	6*d.*	6*d.*
„ - - { riveting boys' boots, per pair }	10*d.*	10*d.*	10*d.*
„ - - { riveting women's boots, per pair }	1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
„ - - { riveting men's boots, per pair }	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*
„ - - { making wellingtons to order }	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.*
„ - - { making elastics to orders }	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*
„ Machinists - per week	30*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*
Hatters—			
Bodymakers - - per dozen	18*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*
Finishers - - „	22*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*
Shapers - - „	4*s.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Crown sewers - - „	4*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Trimmers - - „	6*s.* to 8*s.*	6*s.*	6*s.* to 9*s.*
Clothing Factories—			
Tailoresses - - per week	20*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* 6*d* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Pressers - - „	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Shirtmakers - - „	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists - - „	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen - „	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 5*l.*
13.—IN FOOD AND DRINK.			
Bakers—			
Foremen - - per week	3*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*	3*l.*
Second hands - - „	2*l.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*	25*s.* to 35*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*

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Description of Labour.		1877.	1882.	1887.
13.—IN FOOD AND DRINK—*cont.*				
Butchers— Shopmen	per week	35*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*
Slaughtermen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	per week, with board	15*s.* to 20*s.*	10*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Small-goods men	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*
Maltsters	per week	—	—	2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—IN ANIMAL SUBSTANCES.				
Curriers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	36*s.* to 60*s.*	36*s.* to 60*s.*	36*s.* to 60*s.*
15.—IN STONE, CLAY, &c.				
Brickmakers	per 1,000	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*
Navvies	per day	6*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Quarrymen	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard	2*s.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
16.—IN MINES.				
General managers	per week	2*l.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*
Legal „	„	10*s.* to 6*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*
Mining „	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.*
Engineers	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Engine-drivers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pitmen	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*	1*l.* 16*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Blacksmiths	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*
Carpenters	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Foremen of shift	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Miners	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Surfacemen (labourers)	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 5*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	„	12*s.* to 50*s.*	15*s.* to 2*l.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*
Chinese	„	12*s.* to 36*s.*	12*s.* to 36*s.*	12*s.* to 40*s.*

Prices.

118. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows at the same three periods. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c. is naturally somewhat higher, and that

of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne :—

Prices in Melbourne, 1877, 1882, *and* 1887.

Articles.		1877.	1882.	1887.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.				
Wheat	per bushel	5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* 9*d.* to 6*s.* 10*d.*	3*s.* to 4*s.* 1*d.*
Barley	„	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 1*d.* to 6*s.*
Oats	„	3*s.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* to 4*s.* 4*d.*	2*s.* 1*d.* to 3*s.* 3*d.*
Maize	„	3*s.* 10*d.* to 6*s.*	5*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 11*d.*
Bran	„	1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.*	1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*	7½*d.* to 1*s.*
Hay	per ton	3*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*	3*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*
Flour, first quality	„	11*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 16*l.* 5*s.*	10*l.* to 13*l.* 10*s.*	7*l.* 10*s.* to 11*l.*
Bread	per 4 lb. loaf	6½*d.* to 9*d.*	4*d.* to 7*d.*	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
GRAZING PRODUCE.				
Horses—				
Draught	each	16*l.* to 49*l.*	21*l.* to 58*l.*	15*l.* to 50*l.*
Saddle and harness	„	6*l.* to 63*l.*	8*l.* to 42*l.*	8*l.* to 35*l.*
Cattle—				
Fat	„	5*l.* 10*s.* to 19*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 15*l.*	5*l.* to 13*l.*
Milch cows	„	4*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.*	4*l.* 15*s.* to 9*l.*	6*l.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat	„	3*s.* to 28*s.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 8*s.*
Lambs, fat	„	2*s.* to 11*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* to 11*s.*
Butchers' meat—				
Beef, retail	per lb.	3*d.* to 9*d.*	1½*d.* to 8*d.*	2½*d.* to 9*d.*
Mutton „	„	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	1¼*d.* to 4½*d.*	1½*d.* to 4*d.*
Veal „	„	5*d.* to 7*d.*	4*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*
Pork „	„	8*d.* to 10*d.*	6*d.* to 8*d.*	5½*d.* to 8*d.*
Lamb „	per quarter	2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
DAIRY PRODUCE.				
Butter	per lb.	9*d.* to 2*s.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Cheese	„	8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 5*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.				
Geese	per couple	8*s.* to 10*s.*	6*s.* to 10*s.*	6*s.* to 11*s.*
Ducks	„	5*s.* to 7*s.*	4*s.* to 7*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.*
Fowls	„	4*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.*
Rabbits	„	1*s.* to 2*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Pigeons	„	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys	each	5*s.* to 11*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	10*s.* to 16*s.*	7*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*

VICTORIA

Articles.		1877.	1882.	1887.
FARM-YARD PRODUCE--*cont.*				
Bacon	per lb.	10*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*
Ham	„	1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	9*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes—Wholesale	per ton	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 15*s.*
Retail	per cwt.	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*
Onions, dried	„	6*s.* to 20*s.*	3*s.* to 10*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	6*d.* to 9*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	6*d.* to 8*d.*
Turnips	„	4*d.* to 1*s.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Radishes	„	4*d.* to 8*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	6*d.* to 4*s.*	6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 6*s.*
Cauliflowers	„	6*d.* to 4*s.*	6*d.* to 7*s.*	6*d.* to 4*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Green peas	per lb.	¾*d.* to 3½*d.*	1*d.* to 4*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea	per lb.	8*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	7*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*	7*d.* to 2*s.*
Coffee	„	11*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	7*d.* to 10*d.*	7*d.* to 1*s.* 2½*d.*
Sugar	„	3½*d.* to 5½*d.*	3*d.* to 5*d.*	2½*d.* to 3*d.*
Rice	„	3*d.* to 4*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*
Tobacco	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*
Soap, Colonial	„	2¼*d.* to 3½*d.*	2*d.* to 3½*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*
Candles—Sperm	„	8*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	6⅝*d.* to 10½*d.*	5½*d.* to 9*d.*
Tallow	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Salt	„	1*d.*	1*d.*	1*d.*
Coals	per ton	31*s.* to 38*s.*	23*s.* to 42*s.*	24*s.* to 33*s.*
Firewood	„	11*s.* to 18*s.*	8*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
WINES, SPIRITS, &c.				
Ale	per doz.	7*s.* to 11*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 13*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 11*s.* 6*d.*
Porter	„	7*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy	per gall.	21*s.* to 32*s.* 6*d.*	21*s.* to 33*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Rum	„	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Whisky	„	17*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*
Geneva	per case 15 bottles	58*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine	per doz.	24*s.* to 50*s.*	—	—
Sherry	„	28*s.* to 80*s.*	—	—
Claret	„	10*s.* 9*d.* to 85*s.*	14*s.* to 86*s.*	15*s.* to 87*s.*
Champagne	„	25*s.* to 80*s.*	25*s.* to 92*s.* 6*d.*	33*s.* to 95*s.*
Colonial wine	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 28*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*

119. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1887–8."

Victorian Year Book.

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

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